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TOPICS OF THE DAY.

THE last days of autumn have been converted into a premature and severe winter. It is to be hoped that as it has come upon us so soon it will leave us as speedily. To those who are in health and strength, warmed by wholesome if not luxurious food, and sound if not old wines, such weather is pleasant enough. It promotes exercise, gives a zest to many of the pleasures of life, braces the nerves, invigorates the system, and holds out pleasant prospects of skating and torchlight processions on the ice. To the poor and to the sickly it appears under a very different aspect: weak lungs cannot bear this severity of weather. The time for flying west and south

to warmer climes has arrived; and for those who cannot fly, but must remain in cold and foggy, smoke-wrapped London, and who, worse than this, have not the wherewithal to purchase warm clothing and strengthening sustenance, how gloomy must this bright, cold weather appear to them! And for those who are compelled to gain a livelihood by putting off to sea on stormy nights in fragile boats, and "whose business is on great waters," what terrible tornadoes and bitter blasts of hurricane have there been! The harbour bar has been moaning, and our shores have been strewn with the ruin of the ruthless storm.

The world of politics has not been without its events—the death of the King of Portugal; the Queen of Spain's congratulations to the Cortes; the triple expedition to Mexico; the financial crisis in France; and the Right Hon. Benjamin Disraeli on the Church of England, present a tolerable diversity of topics, though they are only a few of those we might enumerate. And first of our vivacious neighbours on the other side of the Channel. They have been long, it would seem, in a state of false prosperity as a nation doing bills and constantly renewing them. If a people or a Government will do this, it must suffer, precisely as does an individual who conducts his private affairs upon this reckless system—or want of system. M. Achille Fould has made a clean breast of it; and, inasmuch as to know one's danger is to a certain extent to be armed against it, the very candour of his avowals would induce one to believe that the case is by no means irremediable or desperate. Certainly there is an enormous deficit; but, if this great empire will accept the rumoured suggestion of M. Persigny and agree to a partial disarmament, it will not only promote the cause of peace in Europe, but may speedily mend its financial condition. Let it also for a time leave off building and beautifying. These are luxuries which can only be afforded when the national coffers are full. More activity in commerce, a freer development of the recently-introduced doctrines of Free Trade, less public and private expenditure, and a courageous and immediate looking at difficulties in the face—these are the *nostrums* which we confidently but courteously prescribe for our neighbour in his embarrassment.

While the Portuguese nation has lost by the death of Pedro V. a good, amiable, and popular King, the Queen of Spain has been congratulating the Cortes and glorifying her country and herself in terms of extravagant eulogy. Spain is gradually, indeed rapidly, asserting itself; and even the ecclesiastical system under which it groans cannot entirely repress the vigour of its people or check the fertility of its soil. But a more becoming modesty of tone would gratify us when we remember how many have to lament Spanish indebtedness and Spanish insolvency. We are joining France and Spain in a useful and important expedition to Mexico. It is to be hoped that, as usual in such conjoint crusades, we do not get the

found wanting. His opinions on questions of divinity have vastly improved since he wrote the celebrated and rather notorious chapter on the Jews in his "Life of Lord George Bentinck." Sir Robert Peel has been obliged to be polemical, though of theology proper he steered carefully clear. An ecclesiastical thunderbolt was aimed at him; but he is unscathed, and his denunciation of the bigotry which suggested it has made friends for him among all sensible and moderate men who can love God without hating their neighbour. Mr. Leatham, Mr. Bright's brother-in-law, has been delivering a very well-prepared, polished, and almost effective oration on national expenditure, advocating, as all should

advocate who have a chance of doing so, the cause of financial reform. We trust that he will succeed in persuading his eloquent brother-in-law, the member for Birmingham, to take a more active part as a financial reformer in the House. It is easy enough to be blatant upon the hustings or the platform about "the people's money being voted away," but if these complaints were made at the right time, and this energy displayed in the right place, a vast deal of practical good might be attained, and we might be saved hereafter from the fate which now seems to threaten France, and has on three previous occasions overthrown the Government of that country. If he was not a very active financial reformer, the late member for Finsbury was an active aristocratic Radical, and he is a loss to the House of Commons and to the country. He was not a man of transcendental parts; but he was endowed with sound, common sense, a fluent tongue, and a keen sense of humour. He made the House of Commons laugh more than its professed wits do, and had always a rich fund of ridicule ready for the exposure of a job or the destruction of a sham.

Where will Finsbury find its next Mirabeau? An aristocratic Radical after all, if he be sincere, as Tom Duncombe was, is far preferable to Higg or Podger. A patrician who really understands and believes in liberal politics has opportunities for doing more good and advancing the "good old cause" farther than the most virtuous church-

warden or the most orthodox vestryman that ever distorted English history, or exasperated his "h's" for the benefit of his constituents or the amusement of the House of Commons.

THE NEW KING OF PORTUGAL.

THE new King of Portugal, accompanied by his brother Dom John, arrived at Lisbon on the 14th inst., and was at once saluted as King by the title of Luis I. Immediately after the late King's death a Council of State was held, and at its invitation his father, Dom Fernando, assumed the Regency till the arrival of the successor to the ancient throne of the Braganzas—a throne which was won by their remote ancestor when the Cross and the Crescent, Christian and Moor, were struggling for mastery on the fields of the Peninsula. On the 15th the new King took the oath to the Constitution, amid respectful demonstrations of loyalty on the part of the people or



LUIS I, KING OF PORTUGAL. (FROM A PHOTOGRAPH BY F. A. GOMEZ.)

worst of it, and France gain the most glory and the most gain, while Spain puts its hands into our pocket for a loan.

At home Mr. Disraeli and Sir Robert Peel have attracted great attention—the one by his oration on the present position and duties of the Church of England, the other by his successful tour in Ireland and the brilliant speeches which he has sown broadcast over the Emerald Isle. Mr. Disraeli seems to have "got up" or "coached up" theology and Church of Englandism as a man might learn a new language or a new game. "A sudden thought strikes me: I will be orthodox;" and so he sits down and teaches himself, or is taught, orthodoxy; and so well has he learned his lesson that, even in contact with a right reverend Prelate and in the presence of other Church dignitaries, he was tried in the balance and not



Lisbon. The young King is in his twenty-fourth year, and is thought to give promise of much intelligence and excellence of disposition, and it is to be hoped that his career will be more auspicious than that of his late brother.

The death of the late King a few days after that of his brother Dom Fernando, and the continued illness of his other brother, Dom Augusto, had caused a great sensation, and given rise to reports of their having been poisoned during their excursion to the province of Alentejo, from which they had just returned, when they were all attacked by fevers peculiar to the marshy grounds they had visited after the first autumnal rains. Although apparently divested of all foundation, the suspicion of poison found credence among a portion of the people, the result of which was a demonstration against the Spaniards resident in the city, and who are engaged in the construction of a railway, but for what reason does not appear. The temporary effervescence, however, speedily subsided, and at the last advices perfect tranquillity prevailed.

The late King had severe trials during his short reign of eight years, two of which were under his father's regency. During the other six years his capital has suffered severely from cholera and yellow fever, and he lost his young and amiable wife, Queen Estiphanía, shortly after marriage. His Majesty was of a very reserved and melancholy disposition, and often gave expression to his anticipations of disasters during his reign. His brother Dom Luis, who has succeeded to the throne, is of a more lively and jovial character, and better calculated to please the people he has to govern, who are always more disposed to gaiety than gloom.

Our Portrait of his Majesty represents him in his uniform as Captain in the Portuguese Navy.

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

The Senate has been convened for Monday, the 2nd of December. This early convocation has for its purpose the passing of the *Senatus Consultum* to prepare for the new arrangement of the financial system. The changes made in this department will be found noticed in another place. There is little else worthy of record in the Parisian news. It is asserted that important changes will shortly be made among the functionaries of the high administration, that the powers of several Ministries will be modified, and that a re-organisation of the Ministry of State may be expected.

Judgment was given on Tuesday by the Tribunal of Commerce, Paris, in the case of Mires and Count Pontalba. Pontalba is ordered to refund to the shareholders the sum of 1,700,000*fr.*, which he received from Mires; and he is, moreover, condemned to pay the costs of the suit.

SWITZERLAND.

The Federal Commissioners have returned to the Valley of Dappes in order to complete their protocol on the recent violation of Swiss territory from the verbal depositions of witnesses. A fresh violation of Swiss territory has taken place near Geneva.

Austria, which after the loss of Lombardy, positively refused to bear any portion of the expense of constructing the Bodensee Railway, has unexpectedly notified to the Federal Government her intention of contributing towards the expenses.

ITALY.

A political reunion has been held at the house of Baron Ricasoli to arrange upon a programme for the coming Session. The impression appeared to be that the Chamber of Deputies would generally support the foreign policy of the Government, but that some changes in the Cabinet are inevitable. It was said that M. Ratazzi might possibly become Minister for the Home Department, Baron Ricasoli retaining the presidency of the Council and the Foreign Office; but this was merely a surmise. According to other accounts, the junction of Ricasoli and Ratazzi is pronounced to be less likely now than before. Very little had transpired in Turin with regard to the result of Ratazzi's visit to Paris; but the envoy appeared to be not dissatisfied with his visit or with the present situation of affairs.

The Turin journals circulate a rumour that General Cialdini has tendered his resignation, and that Signor Ratazzi will relinquish the Presidency of the Chamber of Deputies.

It is reported that in the conversations which took place between the Emperor of the French and M. Ratazzi, during the recent visit of the latter to Paris, the Emperor did not originate any suggestion about giving precedence to the Venetian question; but, in the course of discussion, indicated the possibility of events in eastern Europe, especially in the Herzegovina, bringing about a condition of things which might force the Venetian question upon prompt decision. With regard to Rome the Emperor promised nothing definite, but did not give the distinct denial of all hope of arrangement which common rumour has attributed to him.

Brigandism seems to be again raising its head. Both Chiavone and Borges have reappeared on the stage. Chiavone is announced to have received a defeat, and to be endeavouring to regain the Papal territory, hotly pursued by the Italian troops. Borges has appeared in the Basilicata province, and has sacked some small towns. The number of his band is represented to be only 200; but 200 brigands in a country so peculiarly favourable to their efforts, and with an ultimate place of safe refuge attainable, may of course inflict immense annoyance upon a peasant population, and keep considerable bodies of troops or national guards perpetually in occupation. A deputation from Basilicata has waited upon General Della Marmora to demand the adoption of energetic measures to repress the nuisance. But the obvious truth is that, while brigands can be despatched across the Roman frontier, and can find safety the moment they recross it, there is little chance of any complete suppression of the outrages which now keep some of the Neapolitan provinces in disorder. There is a rumour that the Papal Government is preparing an expedition against Umbria.

The congress of deputies from the workmen's mutual benefit societies of Italy has assembled at Asti and passed the following resolutions:—

1. That the resolution passed at the congress of Florence to the effect that workmen's mutual benefit societies should henceforth take part in political matters (a resolution, it will be remembered, that had been agreed to at the instigation of the Mazzinian party) be annulled. 2. That henceforth all political questions shall be absolutely excluded from the debates of the societies in question. 3. That a committee be appointed to organise a congress for next year, which is to be the ninth, as that of Asti is only to be considered as an extraordinary one, convoked for the special purpose of repairing the mischief done by the congress of Florence.

AUSTRIA.

The Austrian Government has officially informed all foreign Courts that the measures taken towards Hungary are essentially provisional until that country consents to accept the privileges granted by the Crown, instead of claiming those it possessed before the revolution of 1848.

Private accounts describe the province of Galicia as occasioning the greatest uneasiness at Vienna. The province is much disturbed, and a movement is apprehended similar to that which now prevails in Warsaw. The Governor of Galicia has been sent for to Vienna, to give an account of the state of affairs, and to suggest means for calming the agitation.

There is nothing new from Hungary or Croatia, affairs in those provinces remaining unchanged.

PRUSSIA.

The King of Prussia has made another speech, designed to efface the impression caused by his unlucky Königsberg declarations. This recent address was delivered at Breslau, on the occasion of his

visit there to assist in the inauguration of a monument to his father. The King renews his assurances of determination to uphold the constitution of his kingdom, and to sustain the full rights of the people as well as of the Crown.

The primary elections, or choice of the persons who are to have votes for the return of members to Parliament, took place in Prussia on Wednesday. The result in Berlin is decidedly in favour of the Liberals, and telegrams received in the capital from the provinces seem to indicate a result generally similar throughout the country.

The Prussian press continues to discuss with much animation the military expenses of the kingdom. The Liberal journals denounce these expenses as being excessive, and it is thought that, unless the Cabinet take up the question of retrenchment, the anti-military movement will become anti-Ministerial.

GERMANY.

At the meeting of the Germanic Confederation on the 14th inst. Prussia made a declaration against Hanover's offer to build a certain number of gun-boats for the defence of the northern coast, urging that mere individual action of that kind would be impracticable; and demanded a speedy decision upon her own proposal for the creation of a Federal fleet.

POLAND.

Matters daily grow worse in Poland. The last news from Warsaw says that owing to the military being continually insulted, and the regulations of martial law set at defiance, it was expected that the city would be placed under a special state of siege.

The Administrator of the Archbishopric of Warsaw has been arrested in pursuance of orders from St. Petersburg. The Prelate, who is ill, has been conducted to the citadel, and will be tried before a court-martial. The cause of his arrest is stated to be on account of the churches being continually closed, and because he had written a letter worded in disrespectful terms to General Lüders. The Government demands from the Chapter the election of another Administrator. The Chapter, however, refuses to comply with this demand, and has appealed to Rome.

The story of the discovery of arms on an estate of Count Zamoycki has been discredited by a letter which Count Zamoycki's brother has addressed to a Paris journal.

TURKEY AND THE EAST.

The insurgents of the Herzegovina have retired to Zubzi, and have sent their wives and children into Austrian territory. The Turks are continually strengthening the fortification of their positions. It is said that the Prince of Montenegro has promised to remain neutral, and to confine himself to guarding his own frontiers.

During the 8th and 9th of the present month 354 ships of commerce entered the port of Constantinople, the largest result that has been obtained for fifty years. It proves the immense importance of this port in a commercial point of view. A great number of the ships came from the Black Sea, from the Sea of Azoff, or from the Danube, and were laden with wheat.

THE CAUCASUS.

In the Daghestan the populations of the mountainous districts have risen in insurrection against the Russians, and have defeated the latter in several combats, taking from them in the last affair eight pieces of cannon. In Circassia the different tribes are animated with a warlike spirit, and are up in arms. When the Emperor Alexander was at Anapa he summoned several members of the Circassian council and made to them propositions of arrangement, and also asked them if they would consent to the opening of a road through the district of the Chapsoughs. The chiefs replied, "We desire nothing more than to live in peace. Remain in your limits and respect our territory; on our part we will not place foot on Russian soil. As to the road, we will not consent to the making of it; and if you begin one we will reply to each blow of a pickaxe by the discharge of a musket."

INDIA.

Lord Canning has published resolutions permitting the absolute sale of waste lands and the redemption of the land revenue on conditions of clearance and cultivation. The price of unassessed lands is not to exceed five shillings an acre, and that of cleared lands is not to be above ten shillings per acre. These rates are to rule for five years.

Colonel Baird Smith, in his final report on the famine, recommends the permanent settlement of the land and water revenue in the North-west Provinces.

AUSTRALASIA.

At the date of the latest advices from Victoria a fierce controversy was raging in the local Parliament, as well as among the colonists, with reference to the occupation-licenses which had been granted to the squatters in the gold-fields. The Ministry had achieved great popularity by issuing these licenses, by virtue of which miners and others held allotments of land on very easy terms. The legality of the grants thus made was disputed by the Opposition, and in the Legislative Council an address to the Governor was carried praying that he would suspend the licenses until the question of their legality had been determined by the Supreme Court.

There has been quite an exodus of the mining population to the newly-discovered gold-fields of New Zealand. From 6000 to 7000 persons had already left the shores of Australia for Otago. There is no doubt that gold exists in large quantities in Otago and other parts of the colony—in the north island, too, as well as the south; but there was a good deal of distress, owing to the enormous influx of strangers for whom adequate provision could not be made, and who could not all hope to be successful. The arrival of Sir George Grey was anxiously expected, and in the meantime the native war question was in abeyance.

Mr. Stuart, the well-known explorer, had returned to South Australia, having almost succeeded in crossing the continent. Want of provisions compelled him to return when he had reached a point within ninety miles of the Gulf of Carpentaria. He describes the country as rich and fertile. Another expedition, to be placed under his command, was to be immediately fitted out.

THE FRENCH IMPERIAL STANDARD.—The first of four specimens of Imperial standards now being manufactured in Lyons to be hoisted on board any ship of war carrying the Emperor or a Prince of the Imperial family is nearly finished, and will soon be forwarded to Paris. This standard is 13ft. 6in. in length and 11ft. 6in. in depth. It has on each side an eagle with outstretched wings, the same in width, bearing the Emperor's arms. All round on the field of the banner are scattered thirty-six bees, from 6in. to 8in. in height. Two of the standards are to be worked in fine gold, and the other two in gold-coloured silk. The eagles and their borders, with some of the bees, are woven in the stuff, exactly the same on both sides; the others are put in afterwards, and have precisely the same appearance of those woven. The flags made entirely of silk are scarcely inferior in brilliancy to those worked with gold, and are, of course, much lighter.

THE COMMERCIAL FLEET OF GERMANY.—As will be seen from the following figures, the commercial fleet of Germany is second to none but the English and American, and actually doubles in point of numbers the merchant ships of France. The tonnage of English vessels amounts to 5,500,000; that of America, 5,000,000; Germany, 2,200,000; France, 900,000; Denmark, 150,000, &c. To show the disparity between the military and commercial fleets of the Confederacy, it is only necessary to compare its naval resources with those of second-rate European monarchies. Denmark, for instance, with a merchant fleet of 150,000 tons, possesses a navy nominally numbering 110 ships of all classes. Germany, with a tonnage of more than fifteen times the amount belonging to her indistinctive neighbour, cannot boast the possession of more than 100 men-of-war, 40 of which belong to the class of gun-boats. Holland, again, whose annual commerce is exceeded by the one city of Hamburg alone to the amount of 55,000,000 thalers, yet keeps 12 men-of-war, carrying 2000 guns.

THE CONFLICT IN AMERICA.

THERE are several items of importance in the news from America. On the 31st of October General Scott resigned the command of the Federal armies, on account of age and ill-health, and has been succeeded by General McClellan. The President went in person to inform the veteran General that his resignation had been accepted, and the scene is said to have been a very moving one. On assuming the command in chief of the army, General McClellan issued an order of the day, in which he says:—

In the midst of the difficulties which encompass and divide the nation, hesitation and self-distrust may well accompany the assumption of a responsibility; but, confiding as I do in the loyalty, discipline, and courage of our troops, and believing, as I do, that Providence will direct ours as the just cause, I cannot doubt that success will crown our efforts and sacrifices.

The new Commander-in-Chief also made a speech at Washington, in which he said that the war cannot be long, although it may be desperate.

Secretary Cameron, in a speech which he delivered at Astor House, New York, said that the day of reverses for the Federal army had passed. He urged the people to wait patiently till General McClellan's preparations were completed, and said that the General would pledge his life on victory.

General Fremont has received an unconditional order at Springfield relieving him from the command. Several companies had down their arms, and declared that they would only fight under Fremont. Some officers even talked of making him Dictator of the South-West, in spite of the Cabinet of Washington. The General expostulated with his troops, and urged them not to abandon their posts. He then issued a farewell address to the army, and prepared to set out for St. Louis. He is to be succeeded by General Hunter.

It is stated from St. Louis that Generals Price and Ben McClellan had united their forces, numbering together 30,000 strong, at Noxton, and that General Price intended giving battle there to the army of General Fremont, and would, if successful, march on St. Louis.

Great numbers of Kentuckians, who had joined the Confederates, are reported to be returning home, ill clad and half-starved.

No engagement had taken place on the Potomac. The Southern army had erected strong fortifications at Centreville, and had 10,000 men at Fairfax Court House and 10,000 at Manassas. The Southerners are said to have 400,000 men in all under arms.

An engagement took place on the 1st at Gauley Bridge between Generals Rosencranz and Floyd. The engagement, it is said, was not a general battle, but a rather warm skirmish, in which the Confederates were repulsed with great loss. The action was commenced by the rebels, who opened two batteries on the Federal lines near Gauley Bridge, but though the firing continued all day, little or no damage was done, not a man being killed. Late in the day the Federal artillery was brought to bear, and the rebel fire soon silenced.

The great naval expedition had been seen off Bull's Bay, on the coast of South Carolina. It is supposed that some operations are intended to take place at that point, and also at Port Royal, which is some fifty miles below Charleston. "Thus," we are told, "Charleston will be placed between two fires."

THE CONVENTION WITH REGARD TO MEXICO.

THE terms of the Convention concluded between the English, French, and Spanish Governments with regard to the combined intervention in Mexico have been published officially. The following are the terms of this important document:—Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, her Majesty the Queen of Spain, and his Majesty the Emperor of the French, feeling themselves compelled, by the arbitrary and vexatious conduct of the authorities of the Republic of Mexico, to demand from those authorities more efficacious protection for the persons and property of their subjects, as well as a fulfilment of the obligations contracted towards their Majesties by the Republic of Mexico, have agreed to conclude the following Convention, with a view to combine their common action:—

Article 1. Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, her Majesty the Queen of Spain, and his Majesty the Emperor of the French engage to make, immediately after the signature of the present Convention, the necessary arrangements for dispatching to the coasts of Mexico combined naval and military forces, the strength of which shall be determined by a further interchange of communications between their Governments, but of which the total shall be sufficient to retake and occupy the several fortresses and military positions on the Mexican coast.

The commanders of the allied forces shall be, moreover, authorised to execute the other operations which may be considered, on the spot, as suitable to effect the object specified in the preamble of the present Convention, and specifically to ensure the security of foreign residents.

All the measures contemplated in this article shall be taken in the name, and on account of the high contracting parties, without reference to the particular nationality of the forces employed to execute them.

Art. 2. The high contracting parties engage not to seek for themselves, nor the employment of the coercive measures contemplated by the present Convention, any acquisition of territory nor any special advantage, and not to exercise in the internal affairs of Mexico any influence of a nature to prejudice the right of the Mexican nation to choose and to constitute freely the form of its government.

Art. 3. A Commission, composed of three Commissioners, one to be named by each of the contracting Powers, shall be established, with full authority to determine all questions that may arise as to the application or distribution of the sums of money which may be recovered from Mexico, having regard to the respective rights of the three contracting parties.

Art. 4. The high contracting parties, desiring, moreover, that the measures which they intend to adopt should not bear an exclusive character, and being aware that the Government of the United States, on its part, has, like them, claims to enforce upon the Mexican Republic, agree to immediately after the signature of the present Convention a copy thereof shall be communicated to the Government of the United States; that that Government shall be invited to accede to it; and that in anticipation of that accession their respective Ministers at Washington shall be at once furnished with full powers for the purpose of concluding and signing collectively or separately, with the Plenipotentiary designated by the President of the United States, a Convention identical, save the suppression of the present article, with that which they sign this day. But as, by delaying to put into execution articles 1 and 2 of the present Convention, the high contracting parties would incur a risk of failing in the object which they desire to attain, they have agreed not to defer, with the view of obtaining the accession of the Government of the United States, the commencement of the above-mentioned operations beyond the time that their combined forces can be assembled in the neighbourhood of Vera Cruz.

Art. 5. The present Convention shall be ratified, and the ratifications thereof shall be exchanged at London within fifteen days. In witness whereof the respective plenipotentiaries have signed it, and have affixed thereto the seal of their arms. Done at London, in triplicate, the 31st day of the month of October, in the year of Our Lord 1861.

The Convention is signed by Earl Russell on the part of England, by Don Xavier de Isturitz on that of Spain, and by Count Flahault for France.

POLISH CENSUS.—From the latest returns it appears that the kingdom of Poland contains 5,850,000 inhabitants. Of that number 600,000 are Jews, of whom 511,000 live in towns and 89,000 in the country districts. Warsaw has 165,000 inhabitants, 45,000 of whom are Jews. At the census of 1846 Poland contained only 215,000 Jews, of whom 111,000 were in large towns and 104,000 in villages. As regards the Jewish population, Poland is divided into four categories:—1. Towns in which Jews may reside without any restriction; 2. Privileged towns interdicted to Jews; 3. Those in which they are only to reside in certain quarters, as at Warsaw; and, 4. What is called the frontier district, that is to say, 21 *versts* (about 15 miles) from the frontier, near which residence is severely interdicted to them, from the fear that they would engage in smuggling.

RAILWAY CARRIAGES WAIVED BY STREAM.—It is gratifying to learn that during the ensuing winter the carriages of the London and North-Western Railway, irrespective of class, will be warmed by steam, as has long been the practice on the Continent. It is hoped that this admirable example of the largest line in England will be followed up immediately by the smaller companies. When it is universally carried out it will be the means of rendering a long winter's journey, which has hitherto been a disagreeable duty, one of comparative comfort and enjoyment to all classes of the community.

THE FINANCIAL STATE OF FRANCE.

The appointment of M. Fould to the post of Minister of Finance has been officially announced, and it would appear that the step was not taken a day too soon. The expenditure of the Government had gone on increasing to such an extent as to render national bankruptcy a by no means remote contingency, the deficit (accumulated, we presume) having reached the enormous sum of £10,000,000 sterling. The official notification of M. Fould's appointment was accompanied by a memoir from that Minister to the Emperor, and by a letter from the latter to the Minister of State approving of the measures proposed, and admitting the necessity of confining the Budget within definite limits. The Emperor thus continues:—

"The only efficacious means to attain this end is to resolutely abandon the faculty which appertains to me of opening a fresh credit in the absence of the Chamber."

I am determined to introduce changes, and the Senate Consultum which will be presented to the Senate on the 21st of December next will contain a resolution, and determine your Budget, and those of the different Ministries, by large sections.

In appointing a right which equally appertained to the Sovereigns, even to national ones, who have preceded me, may I do a useful thing towards the right administration of the finances.

Fould to his origin, I neither regard my prerogatives as a sacred deposit which cannot be touched, nor as a heritage from my ancestors which must be transmitted intact to my son.

Enveloped by the people, and representing their interests, I shall always abandon without regret every prerogative useless for the good of the public, as I shall likewise preserve unshaken in my hands all power which is indispensable for the tranquillity and prosperity of the country.

M. Fould's programme, which, though very elaborate, does not explain the precise means whereby he proposes to balance the accounts of the State, whether by reduction of expenditure, by new taxes, or by a loan, on all which topics much speculation is afloat. The document, however, demonstrates the necessity for the suppression of extraordinary credits, and examines the financial situation. It recalls that recourse has been had to credit under all its forms, and calculates that the deficit has reached the amount of one thousand millions of francs. M. Fould continues:—

"The fears which the faculty of directly disposing of all the resources of France inspires in all our neighbours obliges them to maintain immense armaments. To renounce this power, more apparent than real, more menacing than efficacious, would not only give confidence to France, but would calm the uneasiness of Europe and would remove all pretext for hostile measures."

Even admitting, against all probability, that Europe might, from a state of complete peace, immediately pass into one of war, the abandonment of these prerogatives of the Emperor would be without danger, as the country and the great bodies of the State would afford him their devoted concurrence.

In the course of his memoir M. Fould discloses a state of affairs more astounding than has ever before been witnessed in any country, unless amidst the vortex of revolution or crushed with the disasters of unsuccessful war. During the last ten years the public debt has been increased by 2,800,000,000, or one hundred and twelve millions sterling! To meet the inordinate expenditure that has constantly met with the praises of the Corps Legislatif, the Senate, and the semi-official prints, the loans negotiated in 1851, 1855, and 1859 amount to no less than eighty millions sterling. When the privilege of the Bank was renewed that establishment was compelled to increase its capital by four millions sterling, every farthing of which was absorbed by the Government. The Army Endowed Fund lent the whole of its funds—£5,400,000—to the Government, and this year recourse has been had to a new form of loan, the trentenary obligations, to the tune of one hundred and thirty-two millions of francs, or £5,280,000—total, £91,800,000! Besides this unparalleled state of the public finances, it is reported that the private debts of the Emperor have accumulated to an enormous amount.

The Paris journals are occupied, almost to the exclusion of every other topic, with speculating on the measures that M. Fould will resort to in order to meet the great financial deficiency. As the army expenditure has been clearly the prime cause of the deficit, attention is naturally directed to it as the quarter in which the greatest economy could be effected, and accordingly we have the *Figaro* and the *Constitutionnel* hinting at a reduction in the forces, the latter journal asserting that M. de Persigny has submitted to the Emperor a project for disarmament, but which would maintain the actual organisation. The only two new taxes pointed out are one on stamps and the other on lucifer matches. Happy are Frenchmen if they can so lightly escape from so enormous a difficulty! M. Thiers, it is said, is tired of retirement, and has made a bid for public employment in a letter on the present financial and political situation, which he addressed to Count Walewski, by whom it was laid before the Emperor.

A ZOUAVE'S OPINION OF ENGLISH SOLDIERS.—A story is told of a Zouave having been asked his opinion of the English soldiers after the Crimean campaign. "Ah," said he, "set them down in an engagement ready prepared to die, and no men can fight better; but let them get into my Zouave's dress, and no men know less how to get themselves out of it. One couple of our battalion was encamped beside an English regiment which had a magnificent buck-roast. The cavalry horses of their army had no forage, and the poor beasts, getting no food, sickened and died. At this time the soldiers the goat belonged to were without rations to eat or fire to warm the horses with; and what do you think they did? Why, they collected some boards, made a coffin, and buried the buck. My comrade and myself, stuck at such a waste of good things, took the poor animal up that same night. *Parole d'honneur*, we had three good fires from his coffin, delicious soup from his flesh for seven days, and for the rest of the campaign we slept upon his skin, which kept us from damp and saved us from sickness. Now, what do you think of the English soldier after such a piece of folly as this? I have my cat, I carry him on my sack, and he comes under fire with me, as you may perceive from his having lost a fore foot. I love and cherish him, and he in return will, should there be a necessity, provide me with two days' good living."

A FRENCH CENTENARIAN.—There is now living in Paris a venerable centurion, named M. Jeanne Gallot, who was born at Villars St. Marcelin (Haute-Marne), in 1758. M. Gallot served twenty-two years in the army, took part in many battles, and was present at the disastrous retreat from Moscow. Having invested money in an unfortunate enterprise for the navigation of the Seine, he made a journey to the Haute-S. One last month to acquire the sad certainty that he had lost 40,000fr. M. Gallot is still strong and hearty. The Emperor has granted him a pension of 1200fr. a year.

FIREBIRD CROWS IN Ceylon.—The crows are the flying thieves of the place; and no article, however unpromising its quality, can with safety be left unguarded in any apartment accessible to them. They despoil ladies' work-baskets, open in paper parcels to ascertain their contents, will undo the knot of a napkin if it enclose anything eatable, and have been known to remove a peg which fastened the lid of a basket in order to plunder the provisions therein. The following ruse seems almost beyond corvine craft:—One of these ingenious marauders, after vainly attitudinising in front of a chained watch-dog that was lazily gnawing a bone, and after fruitlessly endeavouring to divert his attention by dancing before him, with head away and eyes askance, at length flew away for a moment, and returned, bringing a companion which perched itself on a branch a few yards in the rear. The crows' grinnings were now actively renewed, but with no better success, till the confederate, poising itself on its wings, descended with the utmost velocity, striking the dog upon the spine with all the force of its strong beak. The ruse was successful: the dog started with surprise and pain, but not quickly enough to seize his assailant, whilst the bone he had been gnawing was snatched away by the first crow the instant his head was turned. Two well-contrived instances of the recurrence of this device came within my knowledge at Colombo, and attest the sagacity and powers of communication and combination possessed by these astute and courageous birds.—*London's Ceylon*.

TOO GREIVELY BY ITALY.—A large party of gentlemen went out to look for game in the neighbourhood of Chertsey a few days since, and divided themselves into two bands. After a while one of the party proposed to his companions to fire off their guns in rapid succession, in order to make the others believe that they had fallen in with a considerable quantity of game. The proposition was accepted; but no sooner had the guns been fired than six magnificent wild boars, alarmed by the noise, rushed from a thicket and passed close to the sportsmen, not only scolding, but fired a shot.

IRELAND.

FRIGHTFUL MURDER IN DUBLIN.—John Molloy, an unemployed hotel-waiter, committed a desperate assault on his wife and sister on Wednesday. Both escaped with their lives, but the wife is seriously injured. He then cut the throats of his two children, one of whom is dead, while the state of the other is hopeless. Molloy is in custody. The cause is said to have been distress.

MURDER IN LIMERICK.—An old man, a farmer, has been shot in Limerick as he was returning from market with his son. A correspondent of a Dublin paper names the man who shot him, and states that this person threatened the deceased not long since for taking a farm from which his father had been dispossessed.

THE CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY.—Sunday having been fixed for the annual subscription throughout Ireland in support of the Catholic University, collections were made in all the chapels in Dublin. The sums contributed, the *Freeman* asserts, were much larger than in any former year. The returns from the several parishes of the diocese will, it says, be made in a few days, after which the list of contributions will be published.

BURN TO DEATH.—Miss Mary E. Collis, daughter of a Kerry magistrate, was on a visit to Lord Monteleale at Mount Trenchard. On retiring to her room the other night she placed the candle on the toilet-table, which was in the recess of the window, and stretched out her hand across the table to close the window-curtain. Her sleeve caught fire from the candle; she endeavoured to raise the carpet that she might extinguish the flames by rolling herself in it; but, finding it failed, she rushed out of the room, calling for help. Mr. Spring Rice, who was in an adjoining room, came to her assistance, and found her a mass of flame. With the aid of some of the other members of the family, after considerable exertions, he succeeded in putting out the fire, but not until the injuries she received were so serious as to cause her death. She lingered in great agony for some days, when death put an end to her sufferings.

RIBBONISM IN LOUTH.—The correspondent of an Irish newspaper, writing from Dundalk, says that "for some time past the prolonged continuance of the proclamation of the Lord Lieutenant extending the provisions of the Crime and Outrage Act to Louth has been a matter of indignant remark amongst the gentry. Representations of a very strong nature having been made on this subject to the Lord Lieutenant of the county, circulars were immediately addressed by Lord Bellew to each petty sessions district of the county requesting the presiding magistrates at the different places to forward to him their opinions and wishes on this important matter. The circular itself alluded to the continuance of the proclamation as a stigma upon the county. The replies to Lord Bellew were, almost without exception, in favour of the removal of the existing restraint. The fact of this unanimity causes the magistrates to feel much displeasure, since no determination appears to have been taken by the Government, although two months have passed over. It is said in this district that the law adviser agrees with the memorial, but that he would not recommend the removal of the Act until the partridge season be nearly closed. Others, again, allege that there is still in Louth a large amount of Ribbonism, sufficient to justify the continuance of the Act."

SCOTLAND.

A FORGOTTEN LOVER.—A lad in the parish of Kinloss, over head and ears in love, resolved to keep tryst with his sweetheart one evening lately, but, in order to nerve himself for the occasion, he took a double dose of whisky. On arriving at the bower of his mistress he found he was supplanted by a rival. Stung with disappointment, he went to a field near by, and dug a grave for himself, determined, as he then was, to hide his sorrow under ground. When he had completed his task, he lay down in the bottom of the excavation. Some of his acquaintances had followed him unperceived to the spot, and commenced throwing in the earth. He bore the affliction patiently for a time, but at length sprang up, threw aside the earth, and exclaimed, "Surely I'm daft to lat myself be buried for the sake o' sic a faithless hussie!"

REPEATING TUNES.—In a certain church in Scotland, the other Sunday, the singers might have been heard proclaiming a curious and exciting, but not very agreeable, entomological pursuit in the following line of a hymn:—

And we'll catch the fly,
And we'll catch the bee,
And we'll catch the bee-flying leech.

THE YELVERTON CASE.—This case was called on Saturday last in the Court of Session, Edinburgh, when, after hearing parties on some points of detail, Lord Ardmillan read the draught of an interlocutor which he intended to pronounce in the case. It was to the following effect:—"The Lord Ordinary prorogates the time for Major Yelverton, the defender in the declarator of marriage, concluding and reporting his proof till the 15th of December next; of new allows proof to the said defender, and to the pursuer of the said declarator a conjunct probation; and, in respect of the provisions of the Conjugal Rights Scotland Act, appoints the said proof to be led before the Lord Ordinary, to commence at one o'clock on the 4th of December, and to continue thereafter on each lawful sabbath day till completed, on or before the said 15th of December; and in respect of the circumstances appearing from the reports of the proof at Dublin and Newry, and that both the pursuer and defender now desire the attendance of both parties for identification by the witnesses, ordains both parties to the conjunct action to attend and be present personally at all the diets of proof; grants diligence to each party to enforce such attendance; reserves all questions of expenses, in consequence of the non-attendance of parties at Dublin and Newry, or of the adjournment of proof; and reserves consideration of all the appeals excepting in so far as disposed of by this interlocutor."

THE PROVINCES.

EFFECTS OF PRACTICAL JOKING.—A few days ago a man employed in the gas factory of Woolwich Arsenal, having been saturated with rain while on outdoor duty, entered the furnace-room, and, having stripped off his wet clothes and wrapped himself in a thick covering of tow, commenced drying his garments before the furnace fire. One of his fellow-labourers, perceiving him thus attired, heedlessly cast a live under at him, which, adhering to the flimsy and combustible matter, rapidly ignited the entire mass with which he was enveloped, blazing furiously over his whole person and defying every effort to extinguish it. Remedies were applied, and the sufferer, although burnt in a severe manner, is now in a fair way of recovery. The aggressor, who acknowledged his culpability and expressed his sorrow for the consequence, voluntarily engaged as a part compensation to allow the patient 12s. per week from his own earnings (25s.) until enabled to return to his work.

SINGULAR RESTORATION OF SPEECH.—Mr. John Underwood, son of Mr. William Underwood, of the Fox Inn, Buxter-gate, Loughborough, joined the Marine Artillery about nineteen years ago, and in February last went abroad. He was seized with an attack of paralysis, which took away his speech, and every effort that medical skill could devise was tried to restore him, but without success. He returned home about four months since, but quite dumb. Being very fond of sport, he went out fishing a few days since in the neighbourhood of Loughborough, and had not been at the waterside many minutes before he caught two small fishes. Immediately after this he succeeded in hooking a large pike, and, after a long time trying to get it ashore, he suddenly made a bolt, breaking away his line, and he, of course, lost his fish. He felt so much enraged at this that he actually in a stuttering manner uttered an exclamation. Believing it to have been some one behind him who had spoken, he suddenly turned round, but could see no one, and therefore came to the pleasurable conclusion that it must have been himself. He put up his rod at once, fell down on his knees, thanked God for the happy release he had experienced, and then made the best of his way home. Feeling so delighted at the thought of being able to talk he used his tongue very freely to himself all the way. On arriving at home he fell into his mother's arms and cried out in a burst of ecstasy, "Thank God, I can talk!"

DESPERATE STABBING AFFRAY.—At the Manchester Police Court last week two rough-looking men, named William Carr and Luke Doyle, were charged with stabbing Francis Mycock, a porter, and John Trella, the landlord of a beer-house in Granby-row. On the previous Saturday night Mycock, with other men, was leaving Trella's beer-house, at closing time, when the prisoners and another man came in and demanded some ale. Upon the landlord refusing to fill them any, both prisoners made use of threats about stabbing. Directly afterwards they all left the house, and the prisoner Carr made a rush at Mycock, who was standing in front of the door, and, without speaking a word, stabbed him in the left side with his pocket-knife. Doyle also drew his knife, and ran up to a man named Peak, who, however, escaped for the time. Doyle then turned to the landlord, and struck him in the face with the knife, inflicting severe gashes over his right eye and by the side of his nose. Peak came to the landlord's assistance, and again narrowly escaped the same treatment, for Doyle struck at his left side, but the knife, fortunately, did not penetrate further than through his clothes. Both the prisoners then ran away. The injured men were taken to the Royal Infirmary, where their wounds were dressed; and subsequently the prisoners were met with and apprehended. They were committed for trial.

NOVEL TREATMENT OF KLEPTOMANIA.—Last week a labourer named Johns, residing near Callington, who has suffered from repeated attacks of kleptomania, and was about Christmas last subjected to a treatment for the disorder, experienced a relapse of the malady. Mr. John Thomas, his master, being in a line near the farm where Johns was employed, saw him

approaching. His manner betrayed symptoms of the disease, and, on Johns coming nearer, Thomas thought he saw an effort by Johns to disencumber himself of something. On Johns reaching the place where Thomas was standing, the latter kindly relieved him from the incumbrance of some fruit and potatoes which, during his paroxysm, he had placed in his pockets. The head of a garden-rake and some other articles, carefully wrapped up and secured, were found afterwards near the spot. Mr. Thomas, having found that treatment ineffectual, and sympathising with Johns's family, suggested the following prescription, which Johns cheerfully agreed to take—namely, to stand at the door of Trenavon Chapel immediately after afternoon service on the 17th of November, acknowledge his crime, and give away five shillings' worth of bread. The novelty of the prescription attracted a large congregation. At the time appointed Johns appeared having two large clean white bags filled with bread, with which he sat near the door, inside the chapel. The service being concluded, the minister announced the self-imposed penance on a person for a crime by giving bread at the chapel door. The congregation then began to leave the chapel, and Johns amongst the first, with the two bags; immediately he got outside the door, two boys, sons of his neighbours, took their places on each side of him. Johns then addressed the persons who had come out of the chapel as follows:—"I am to give away five shillings' worth of bread for stealing five apples and three potatoes from John Thomas, and here is some for you, and here is some for you," at the same time handing the bags to the two boys, who walked off in the direction of Johns' house. Almost immediately afterwards Mr. Thomas was seen emerging from the chapel bearing a form, and said, "Here, Johns, stand upon this and give the bread away." Johns replied, "It is done already, I have given it away, and told them what it was given for, and you can do nothing to me now;" adding, in a significant tone, and with the evident satisfaction of a man who has done some good action, "Mr. Thomas never told me how I was to give the bread away." Mr. Thomas, who had expected to hear Johns express contrition, wisely said nothing, but carried the form again into the chapel, with that calm resignation which marks the patient man. Johns afterwards, on overtaking the boys, kindly invited them to tea.

WRECK OF THE CLIPPER-SHIP SOVEREIGN OF THE SEAS.—Advices from Sydney, N.S.W., furnish particulars of the burning of the ship *Sovereign of the Seas*, Captain Cruickshank, master, which took place in Sydney harbour on the 11th of last September. The *Sovereign of the Seas* was a fine clipper-built ship, 1236 tons burden, and arrived in the harbour on the 9th of September, from Liverpool, with a general cargo and a number of emigrants. After the letter had been landed and their luggage discharged, the ship was moored off Campbell's Wharf to unload. On the following day, about four o'clock, when the captain and officers were at dinner, one of the crew entered the cabin in a breathless state of excitement and gave an alarm that the ship was on fire. On Captain Cruickshank going to the fore-part of the ship, he found the forehold full of smoke, and the heat so great that it was impossible for any one to get down. The pumps were got to work, and water was poured on the cargo, and the alarm, having spread ashore, soon brought all the available engines to the spot. For hours every possible exertion was made to check the progress of the fire, but to no purpose, and about two o'clock on the following morning holes were cut in the ship to scuttle her. She partly filled, but the depth of water was not sufficient to cover her when she took the ground. She heeled over and remained, and was ultimately abandoned. The fire extended over the whole of the ship, and she was consumed to the water's edge. On an inquiry being instituted, two of the crew were arrested on suspicion of setting fire to the ship, but were liberated. A coroner's jury was called upon to investigate the loss, and they unanimously found that the ship was wilfully set on fire, but by whom there was no evidence to show. The damage is estimated at £25,000.

A HORSEFLESH BANQUET.—At Algiers, a few days back, a considerable number of high public functionaries, superior military officers, judges, and clergy partook, in the saloon of the theatre, of a grand banquet, the greater part of the dishes of which were composed of horse and ass flesh. The object in getting up the feast was to combat the popular prejudice against such food. The different dishes were dressed in the French style, and declared excellent. One of them consisted of a young ass roasted whole. After the dinner suitable toasts and speeches were delivered. One of the latter was M. Decroix, Veterinary Surgeon of the 1st Mounted Chasseurs, who maintained that horseflesh is very nutritious, and that the general adoption of it as an article of food would present many advantages.

THE RECEPTION OF PRINCE MULEY ABBAS BY THE QUEEN OF SPAIN.

THE Spanish domination over the Moors still continues unshaken, and the misfortunes of the barbarians who fought so long and desperately at the siege of Grenada have never been thoroughly retrieved by their modern descendants.

After the taking of Tetuan in the late war, the Spanish Government imposed upon the Emperor of Morocco a large indemnity, the Spanish troops continuing to occupy Tetuan until the payment of the entire sum. It would appear, however, that the payment of such an extraordinary impost was a matter of considerable difficulty, the organisation of taxes being but indifferently effected in a country where the demand for the payment is frequently met with a simple refusal. This state of affairs produced a difficulty, which, together with certain exaggerated reports, and the inability of the Emperor to comply with the strict exactions of Marshal O'Donnell, excited a misunderstanding between the African Court and the Cabinet of Madrid.

To put an end to all these difficulties, however, the Emperor of Morocco determined to send an Ambassador Extraordinary to the Spanish Court, and the person selected was his brother, the Prince Muley Abbas, who had already had negotiations with O'Donnell respecting the conditions of the peace following the surrender of Tetuan.

The high rank of the Ambassador chosen to arrange the diplomatic misunderstanding was regarded as a high compliment by the Court at Madrid.

The Prince was accompanied by Sidi-el-Bermery Ben Chebub of Fez, Sidi-Mohamed Palafrach of Esbat, and Sidi-Mohamed-el-Moraci.

The mission was attended by the Spanish and African interpreters, the entire suite of the Embassy consisting of twenty-three persons. The Prince was received by the Queen of Spain along with the three other Ambassadors, and addressed to her a speech, to which her Majesty replied by assuring the Envoy of the Emperor that she had a sincere desire to see friendly relations re-established between the two countries.

After the State audience the discussion was continued between the Ambassadors and the Minister of Foreign Affairs.

A happy solution seems to have been attained by the negotiators, since the bases of a new treaty have been agreed to by which Morocco engages to pay within a short time a part of the indemnity amounting to about two millions and a half, and to resign to Spain the Custom-house revenues until the payment of the balance of the sum originally agreed on by the treaty of peace of Tetuan.

SERVIAN ADVANCED POSTS AT MALA-SVORNIK.

THE war in the Herzegovina has been interrupted for the present by the severity of the weather. The immense fall of snow had compelled Omer Pacha to retire to winter quarters. Previously thereto the insurgents had cut off the communications between Ragusa and Trebigne. Both armies had been strongly reinforced.

One of the points of the Servian territory of which the Turks have forcibly taken possession is the little village of Mala-Svornik, with its surrounding hills, facing the Bosnian fortress Svornik, on the Drina.

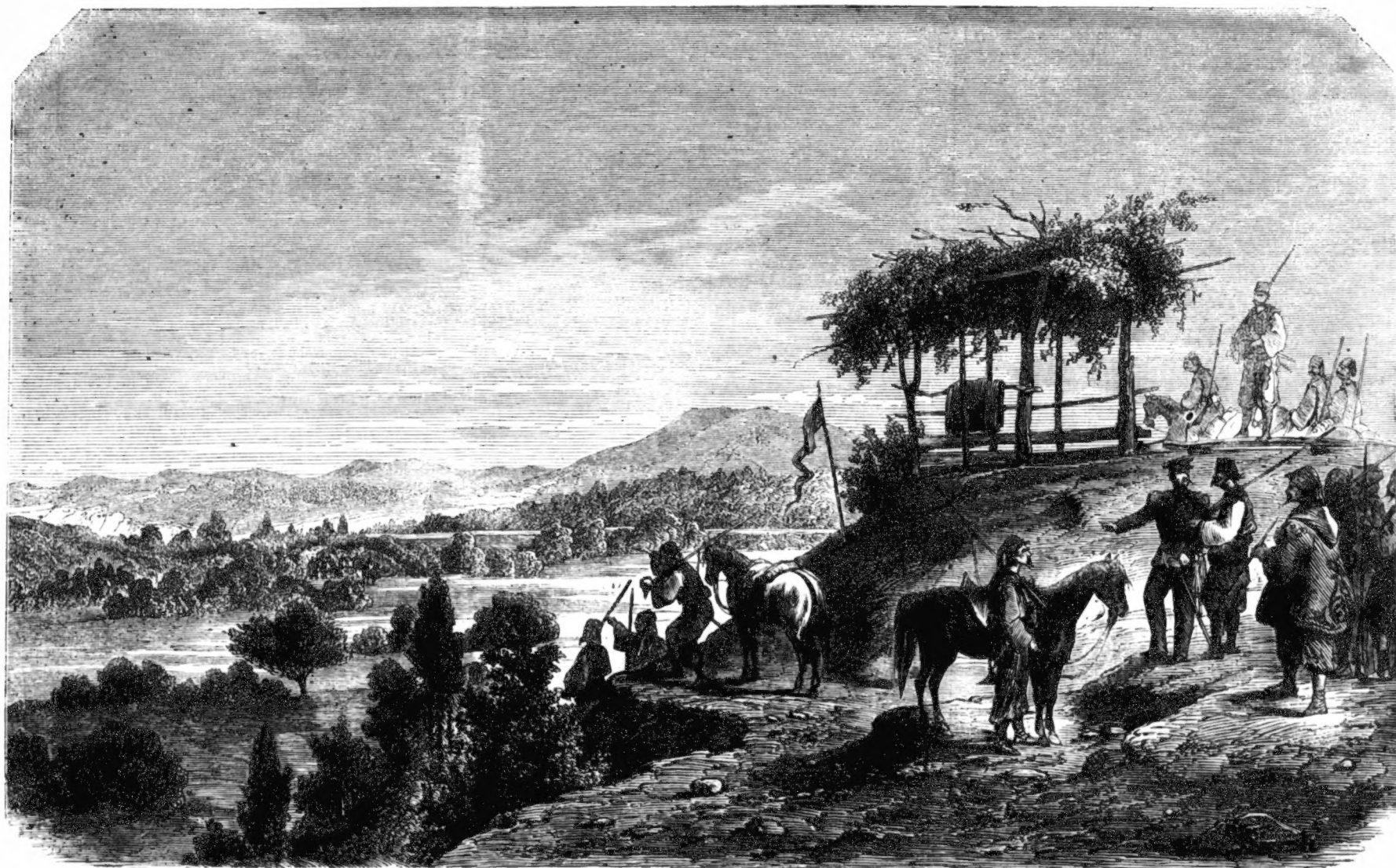
In a strategical point of view Mala-Svornik is a place of considerable importance. It cuts off the passage of the Servian Karaul road, which runs parallel with the river, and enables the Turks in Bosnia, by crossing the hills, to effect a direct communication with the fortress of Sokal, in Servia, which they already occupy.

To the Servian Karaul post Radalj, situated on a little eminence, together with the neighbouring posts Ada and Bator, is assigned the difficult duty of watching the Turkish bank of the Drina, from Svornik to Tschelopek, whence the Turks frequently make marauding excursions.

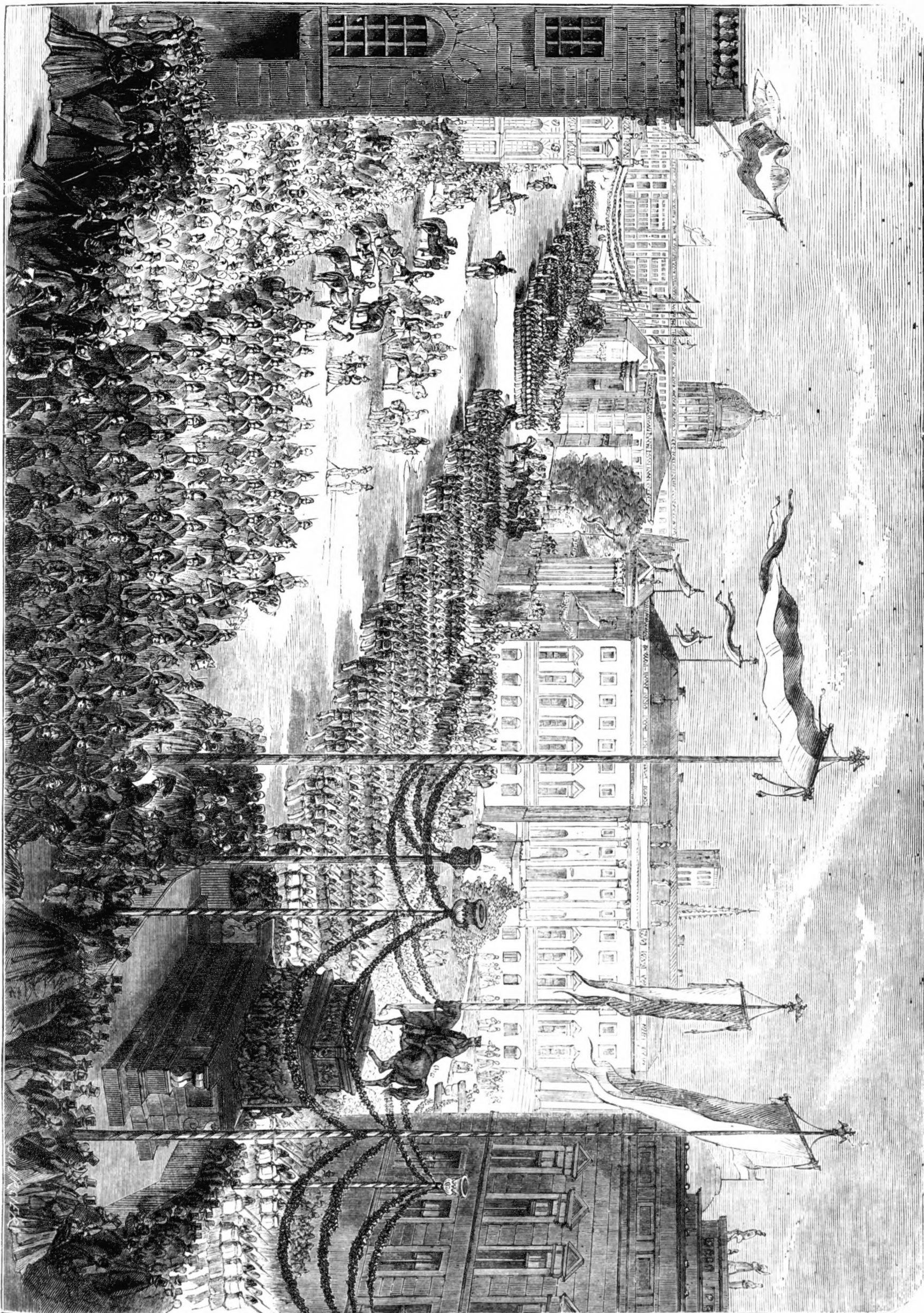
Our illustration depicts the disputed territory, and also the Bosnian heights from Svornik to Tschelopek, where several hundred Servians recently established themselves, with the view of supporting their countrymen in Bosnia.



MULEY ABBAS, AMBASSADOR FROM THE EMPEROR OF MOROCCO, PRESENTING HIS CREDENTIALS TO THE QUEEN OF SPAIN



SERVIAN ADVANCED POST AT MALA SVORNIK — (FROM A SKETCH BY F. KANITZ)



GRAND REVIEW BY THE KING OF PRUSSIA AT BERLIN — FROM A SKETCH BY D. BRADGLEY

GRAND REVIEW AT BERLIN.

The peoples, and especially the Princes, of the Continent are so entirely military in their tastes and habits, that no public ceremonial can take place without a review forming a leading feature in it. The pomp, and pride, and circumstance of war, seem to be associated in the Continental mind with every possible event. Be the occurrence sorrowful or joyous—be it a wedding or a funeral, an indispensable part of all public displays is a round of military evolutions. These warlike exhibitions seem somewhat strange to us islanders, who are more cold and sober in our notions of public displays, and who have, moreover, a long-cherished dislike to the parade of soldiers on ordinary occasions. But, after all, even we are becoming impregnated with a love of martial grandeur; and a turnout of volunteers, or a field-day at Aldershot or elsewhere, is pretty sure to attract a goodly crowd of spectators.

Of course the coronation of the King of Prussia could be no exception to the rule which obtains on such occasions in the country which gave birth to the Great Frederick. Accordingly, there was a review of the troops in and around Berlin on the day succeeding that on which the Royal family returned from Königsberg, and a very grand affair indeed it was. The review took place in the great promenade of the Prussian capital—the Unter den Linden—and was attended by the King, the Princes, and all the leading military men of Prussia. The Duke of Magenta, too, was there, and had an opportunity of comparing the soldiers of the German fatherland with those which he is accustomed to see marshalled in such imposing masses in the Champs de Mars or other display-grounds of France. To be sure, he had seen the troops of another portion of Germany arrayed under very different circumstances; but it is to be hoped that he will never have an opportunity of looking upon those of Prussia while engaged in other than such harmless evolutions as those depicted in our Engraving.

SHOCKING TRAGEDY IN THE STRAND.

A GIRL STRANGLED BY HER BROTHER.

A VERY frightful murder was perpetrated on Friday morning in Drury-court, Strand, which is rendered the more painful from the fact that the victim, a girl of nearly eleven years of age, was murdered by her own brother.

The murder was committed in the coal-cellar of the house No. 10, Drury-court, which is a paved thoroughfare from the Strand, opposite the Church of St. Mary-le-Strand, leading into Drury-lane, part of which house was occupied by the parents of the deceased child. The father's name is Thomas Reeve, and he follows the occupation of a basket-maker. For a fortnight past it was stated that he had been much given to drink, and it is lamentable to state that at the time of the murder of his child by her brother he and his wife were far from sober. There were three children, the eldest, a boy aged eighteen, named Richard Reeve, who stands charged with this horrible crime, Mary Ann Reeve (the murdered child), and a younger sister.

The murder was committed at about ten o'clock in the morning of the day in question, and the prisoner was apprehended the same afternoon. The particulars of this sad affair will be seen from the following evidence, adduced at the examination of the prisoner before the magistrate on Saturday morning:—

Mary Reeve, the prisoner's mother, was the first witness. She said:—My husband's name is Thomas. He is a basket-maker. We live at 10, Drury-court. My little girl, Mary, would have been eleven next January. I last saw her between ten and eleven on Friday morning. The prisoner is my husband's son. Mary Ann Reeve was my own daughter.

John Lynes—At ten minutes to two o'clock on Friday afternoon I was standing at the corner of Drury-court, when the prisoner came to me and said he had lost his little sister. He asked me and William Carney to take a walk with him down the Strand to find his sister. We said we would, and we took a walk as far as the pillars near St. Clement's Church. He then told us it was no use looking for his sister; we had better go home and tell his father, if he wanted Mary Ann, he had strangled her, and she was in the coal-cellar. I ran to my father—me and Carney. The prisoner ran away, at least he went away from us. We went to his father's house. We saw him. He was tipsy at the time. We told him what we had heard, and we went with the father into the cellar—at least the father went as far as the trap. We went into the cellar, and found the body of Mary Ann, the little girl. I had known her before. She was lying on her face on the coals. I found that she was dead. I raised the body in my arms and carried it as far as the trap, and handed it up to Mrs. James and Mrs. Griffiths through the trapdoor. I ran off to fetch the doctor from King's College Hospital.

A piece of cord was produced and identified by the witness as that which he found round the little girl's neck.

William Carney gave similar testimony. Mrs. Ellen James, also living at No. 10, Drury-court, deposed:—“Yesterday morning the little girl was lost. About half past nine I heard Dick (the prisoner) call out to her, ‘Polly.’ Polly said, ‘What do you want, Dick?’ The prisoner replied, ‘Bring me the keys of the back place.’ She said, ‘Dick, I don’t know where they are.’ He said, ‘You will find them on the table in the back room.’ Shortly afterwards she came down, and I heard her say, ‘I’ve got ‘em, Dick.’ A quarter of an hour later her mother called out, ‘Polly, are you upstairs?’ I replied, ‘She is not.’ About ten o'clock the mother asked me if I had sent her on an errand. I said I had not. She was missed from that time till the former witness, Lynes, handed her up to me from the cellar through the trap. I placed the body on the sofa in the father's shop. There was a string tied tight round her neck; and I loosened it. It was tied in two running knots, and we untied them. The rope produced is that which I took from her neck. The body remained on the sofa till the doctor and the police came.” Mr. Burnaby—“Will you tell the magistrate whether you have ever heard the prisoner and his sister quarrel?” Witness—“Yes, often. The prisoner, poor boy, was a hard-working boy.”

Mr. C. H. Allfree, house surgeon at King's College Hospital, stated that he had been called to examine the body of the deceased, and found her dead from strangulation.

Policeman Venes stated that he apprehended the prisoner in Carey-street. Witness went up to him, put his hand upon him, and said, “I want you.” He immediately replied, “I know what for; I will go with you; I did it.” I said, “You are charged with the murder of your sister; be cautious what you say, for what you say I shall use in evidence.” He again said, “I did it; she aggravated me to it.”

On being asked if he had anything to say to the charge, the prisoner replied in a sullen tone that he would say nothing. He was then committed for trial. A Coroner's inquest has been held, and a verdict of “Wilful murder” returned against Richard Reeve.

An interesting story is told by the captain of the Yarrowburgh, a large steamer, which left Grimsby on the 1st inst., but was driven back by the gale:—On leaving Grimsby on the 1st inst. the wind was blowing moderately from the N.W. Nothing happened till four a.m. of the 2nd (Saturday), the ship being then about forty miles N.E. of the Spurn, Riamborough Head being about N.W. The weather was dark and gloomy, the wind from the northward blowing a hurricane. She was under close-reefed mainsail and easy steam, ship's head to sea. “At seven a.m.,” the log says, “the sea began to wash away the bulwarks. Put the ship before the sea and wind to make for the Humber. At nine a.m. the decks were filled fore and aft, and then hauled the ship to the wind, and put a tarpaulin in the mizen rigging to keep her bow to the sea. At ten a.m. a fearful sea struck the vessel on the starboard side, sweeping the deck and everything movable, also stanchions, bulwarks, rails, life-boats, galley, warps, breaking the funnel stays, cabin windows, skylights, &c. Attempted to run the vessel before the wind and sea, and in doing so the warps, which had been previously worked from the deck, got entangled with the propeller and stopped the engine, in consequence of which the ship became unmanageable. At two p.m. the water extinguished the fires in the engine-room; set the crew to work at the handpumps, but they had to discontinue working at them as they were continually being washed away. As the ship was settling down made for the Humber, and hoisted signals of distress. 4 a.m.—Anchored six miles from the Spurn in the hope of saving the ship, but in this were disappointed, for the sea ran over the vessel, the deadlights forward were washed in, and the water was rapidly gaining on the pumps. Deemed it prudent to slip the cable and let the steamer drive on the sand, with a view of saving our lives. She came to the ground, Sandhead Flat, about seven a.m., and in fifteen minutes she filled. Remained on board till seven a.m., the captain and eighteen of the crew taking refuge in the cabin, the remaining three in the main rigging. Those in the cabin then got out by the skylight and launched the only two remaining boats, and succeeded in getting to the land. Two of the three men who took to the rigging remained when the boats left, and, owing to the fearful sea that was running, no attempt could be made to get them off.” The survivors were landed at Inghel Mills, on the Lincolnshire shore, to the southward of the Spurn. The loss of the ship and cargo is estimated at near £20,000. The owners are insured, and about £7000 will fall upon the underwriters at Lloyd's.

SIR ROBERT PEEL AND THE PRELATES.

We mentioned in our last that Dr. Cullen had issued a pastoral in which he attacked the Chief Secretary for Ireland on account of his alleged opposition to the Roman Catholic Church. Dr. M'Hale has likewise launched his thunder at Sir Robert's head in connection with his recent tour of inspection in the west of Ireland. The Archbishop of Tuam denounced the way in which the Chief Secretary had made his observations, and declared that, as he only passed rapidly through the country—“travelled like a trunk,” as the Rev. Doctor expressed it—he could not possibly have seen things so minutely as to be capable of forming a judgment upon them. In reply to this statement, Sir Robert at once betook himself to the district forming the diocese of Dr. M'Hale, where he found matters, it is said, much less serious as regards the alleged approach of famine than had been represented. On the other hand, he ascertained that throughout the entire diocese education was very defective, and that the Bishop was charged with having placed every obstacle in his power in the way of establishing schools and carrying out the national system.

Addresses have been presented to Sir Robert Peel in Londonderry and Belfast since the publication of Dr. Cullen's letter, and in replying to them the right hon. Baronet boldly grappled with his reverend opponent. At Londonderry he said, after stating the results of his observations during his tour:—

Notwithstanding the advancing prosperity of Ireland, I regret to find that in some places men are to be found who use their influence to mislead the people of this country. On my arrival in Sligo, to my astonishment and regret, I saw a placard, or letter, publicly exhibited through the town, and signed “Paul Cullen,” denouncing me to the people of this country. For what? Denouncing me, who, after all, am, in the sight of God, but a worm like himself; and for what? Because I have ventured to pursue an independent policy, free alike from partisanship or prejudice. When I read this document I almost shed tears of regret, not that he should denounce me—for I do not care two rows of pins for his denunciations—but tears of regret that in this country any man could be found so misleading the people and stirring up amongst them a spirit of religious animosity. This I will say, however, that though the Rev. Archbishop has thought fit to denounce me to the people of Ireland, it shall not cause me to deviate one iota from the path I intend to follow. I regret, I say, to see this attempt to keep alive religious animosity; but I congratulate myself, as the agent of a Government which intends to act straightforwardly with all classes and parties, that when I leave Ireland I shall carry with me, not, indeed, the approval of such men as Paul Cullen, but the affectionate regard of the great majority of the people of Ireland.

At Belfast he entered more fully into the controversy, and dealt some rather hard blows at the Legate; and in reference to the attack made upon him he remarked:—

The Archbishop Legate of this country, not following the example which was set by his honoured predecessor, Dr. Murray, has thought proper to collate extracts from Hansard upon various subjects—Spain, Italy, and I know not what—and with jesuitical ingenuity to endeavour to construe them into an accusation against myself, as an enemy to the Irish people. Gentlemen, I am not sure that the Archbishop is quite right in the course which he is now following in placarding me in a pastoral of most unjust insinuations. I may say that my heart bleeds for the man who would lay weight on such insinuations as these. For myself, thank God I am made of sterner stuff than to suppose that my countrymen for one moment would believe or place faith in acts or language which savour rather of the monkish superstitions of the middle ages than the bold features of religious toleration. I know not, gentlemen, how far the ecclesiastical discipline and doctrine of the Church of Rome sanction and approve such conduct; but this I do know, that such blasphemous denunciations of public men at the sacred altar of the Most High—the ultimate Judge of all men—is incompatible with the sacred precepts of the Gospel, and receives, as it deserves, the universal condemnation of every man of a liberal and enlightened mind. But why has he thought proper to denounce me? I will tell you the reason. It is because I have expressed myself on more than one occasion in favour of the intellectual and educational development of this country. I took occasion in St. Patrick's Hall to proclaim that my idea of the progress of this country was wrapped up in the development of that educational progress, and I told the audience there that the best way to foster and improve it was, not by looking to Government for support, but by your own unaided exertions—unaided, that is, by Government—and by public spirit, to endow those great institutions, the Queen's Colleges, with scholarships, bursarships, and fellowships. And what has been the result of what I said there? I am happy to say that the noblest in this land—ay, more than that—the merchant princes of this country, one of them, at all events, the most eminent publisher of Dublin, and one of the most eminent merchants of Dublin, have spontaneously written to me approving of that address; and at this moment the subscription-list for that foundation, without any appeal to the public, amounts to the very large sum of £2900. As the address was passing through the press that eminent publisher, Mr. Alexander Thom, wrote to me a letter, and he said, “I so warmly approve of what you have done that I beg to inclose you a memorandum”—for what, do you suppose?—£600. That eminent merchant of Dublin, Mr. Guinness, wrote to me, saying, “I so warmly approve of what you have done that I beg to inclose you a cheque for £250.” And that noble merchant—ay, one of Nature's noblemen himself—Mr. Malcolmson, wrote to me and said, “I so warmly approve of what you have done, I wish so thoroughly to participate in the object which you have in view, that I beg to leave to you an amount equivalent to £600.” Well, I say these are noble instances of the public spirit of this country; and I hope I will also be enabled, among this enlightened and intelligent community, to find there are men who will co-operate with us in endeavouring to promote so excellent a work. I have travelled through a large extent of district, and recollect that in a fortnight I have been enabled to derive from personal observation more information than could be collected from whole files of different reports. I can confidently assert that the reports and files which have been circulated about a famine in this country have been greatly exaggerated. I speak on the authority of personal observation. I leave to those who can write in the secluded districts of Connaught the task of refuting, if they can, what I know to be true. In Sligo, in Down, in Donegal, I hear very different accounts from those which I have been led to believe; and from personal observation in Mayo and Galway, and from letters I have received, I am assured that nothing of the kind that was alleged exists. Of course, I am ready to admit, with every gentleman in this room, that there has been a comparative failure of the potato crop, and that food will be dear; but a scarcity of food is not necessarily a famine, and it is very easy to understand the interested motives of some parties who are anxious to gain public applause by a feigned zeal for the public in spreading about these exaggerated rumours. Now, I must say, as far as I myself am concerned, I do not find that these apprehensions are in any way likely to be realised. I may say that in coming to Ireland I represent England's love for the sister isle. I bring with me England's love, which elicited Ireland's gratitude in her season of famine and distress—that same love which is still felt with undiminished ardour in her happier days of progress and social improvement. I come here to carry out the instructions of her Majesty's Government towards all classes and towards all creeds, without respect of persons, impartially and without prejudice, and so far as is consistent, or, rather, so far as depends upon the political action of Government and of Parliament, to assist in promoting works of public utility and national advantage.

The pluck displayed by the right hon. Baronet in daring to beard the ecclesiastical lions of Ireland seems to be highly appreciated by the people. He has everywhere been received with applause, and even in some of the Catholic journals his spirit and boldness are commended. At the same time, however, it cannot be denied that in the course he has adopted Sir Robert has departed in a marked manner from the cautious conduct of his predecessors; and whether this is a wise course, or will be approved by his political superiors on this side of the Channel, remains to be seen. In the meanwhile, he has stirred up the national life of Ireland, which was beginning to stagnate a little, and revived a portion of that old excitement which once constituted a normal feature in Irish existence.

It is said that Sir Robert, on his arrival in Dublin, paid a visit of courtesy to Dr. Cullen, but the doctor was not at home for him.

ANOTHER MILITARY MURDER.—A shocking murder was committed at Corfu on the 20th of last month. A soldier of the 1st battalion 9th Regiment, Private Chadwick, shot Corporal Donnellon, of the same regiment. The corporal was in his barracks-room, standing up on his bed, arranging some of his things in the rack which is fixed above it, when Private Chadwick entered, and, without even raising his rifle to his shoulder, discharged the contents into his side. The murderer was immediately secured, but the unfortunate victim, of whom at first hopes of recovery were entertained, expired in the greatest agony, after lingering for two days in the hospital. The immediate cause of this crime was the award of six days' confinement to barracks, to which Chadwick had been sentenced by the officer commanding his regiment, for insubordinate conduct to the corporal.

DEATH OF MR. THOMAS S. DUNCOMBE.

M.P. FOR FINSBURY.

THIS well-known and popular metropolitan representative died suddenly on Wednesday morning week at Lancing, near Barchin. The deceased gentleman had for some time suffered from chronic bronchitis. The immediate cause of death, however, was disease of the heart. With the exception of a slight swelling of the ankles, Mr. Duncombe had not exhibited any symptoms calculated to alarm his friends. But on Sunday evening, feeling rather more unwell than usual, he telegraphed to his medical adviser, who visited him immediately, and remained in attendance till the close. Mr. Duncombe has represented Finsbury since 1834, having been a member of the Legislature for more than thirty years. He was sixty-five years of age at his death.

Mr. Duncombe was born in 1797. He was the son of Mr. Thomas Duncombe, of Copgrove, near Boroughbridge, Yorkshire, by Emma, daughter of the Right Rev. Dr. Hinchcliffe, Bishop of Peterborough. He served for some time as an officer in the 4th Dragoons, which regiment he quitted with the rank of Lieutenant shortly after the close of the war. He entered the House of Commons first in 1825, as member for the borough of Hertford in the unreformed Parliament; and, having been lucky enough to gain the confidence of his constituents, was re-elected in 1830, and again in 1831. In 1832, on the passing of the Reform Bill—to the success of which he had powerfully contributed by his animated and vigorous addresses, both within and without the walls of the House—he was turned out by his Liberal colleague, Lord Mahon (Earl Stanhope) and Lord Ingestre (Earl of Shrewsbury and Talbot) being the successful candidates. Although the Conservative members were unseated on petition, bribery and treating, Mr. Duncombe did not stand again. He remained out of Parliament for two years. Lord John Russell, by his Reform Act, brought into being the metropolitan borough of Finsbury—a borough containing 350,000 inhabitants, and about 20,000 registered electors. The first members after the passing of the Reform Bill were a Liberal, the Right Hon. Sir Robert Grant, and a Conservative, in the person of Mr. Sergeant Spankie. In the course of the summer of 1834 Sir Robert Grant accepted the governorship of Bombay, and Mr. Duncombe stood—of course in the ultra-Whig interest—against three other candidates, of whom Mr. Thomas Wakley, his future colleague, was one, and won the election by at least 600 votes. In spite of all his political aberrations, his personal eccentricities, his absences from the House, “Tommy Duncombe” has been re-elected ever since—often under protest, but still re-elected—in December 1834, July 1837, June 1841, July 1847, June 1855, March 1857, and April 1859. Mr. Wakley, Coroner for Middlesex, was the colleague of the hon. gentleman from 1835 to 1852; Mr. Challis, a respectable Alderman in the fleshing trade, from 1852 to 1857; the memorable William Cox from 1857 to 1859; and since that time Sir S. M. Peto.

Mr. Thomas Duncombe's political views were broad and unmistakable. He was a strenuous supporter of triennial Parliaments, secular education, the ballot, separation of Church and State, and the rest of the extreme political platform. He rarely spoke when member for Hertford, but steadily voted for all liberal measures—Roman Catholic emancipation; reform, parliamentary and municipal; but the exigencies of a metropolitan constituency compelled the hon. gentleman to speak—as metropolitan members do speak—with frequency, if not effect. His *specialité* has been church rates—his studies and education having chiefly lain in an ecclesiastical direction—which he has vehemently opposed ever since the year 1834, when he presented a petition against them. He also proposed, and we believe carried, a resolution forbidding the interference of peers in elections as “unconstitutional.” His most important achievement, however, was his vehement opposition to Sir James Graham for his causing the opening of Mazzini's letters during their passage through the Post Office, through which manipulation the Bandiera brothers were executed by Austria. Mr. Duncombe was the popular hero of the day. He denounced Sir James, then Home Secretary, in the House and out of it, day after day; and, though Lord Brougham in the House of Lords at once exposed the fallacy of the Earl of Radnor's arguments directed against Sir James, by showing that the power of opening letters had been notoriously the prerogative and duty of the Secretaries of State since the days of Charles James Fox, Lord Radnor's chief, who had exercised the right in question, the matter formed a stock subject of debate for a long time.

Mr. Duncombe's personal characteristics have been probably the cause of his popularity. He was a fop and a dandy of the first water; his style of dress was in perfect taste, his manners pleasant and genial, his person—even to the last, in spite of the ravages of time—handsome. Radical as he was, he was always a welcome guest at aristocratic tables, and mixed in the highest society; and, if of late years he has gradually withdrawn from society, the cause is not to be sought for in his waning popularity, but in circumstances totally different. His latest political appearance has been in connection with the patriots of Hungary, who, it may be remembered, recently sent him a letter of thanks for his advocacy of their rights in the British House of Commons, in reply to which he wrote an answer demolishing Mr. Roebuck's assertions in favour of Austria.

OBITUARY.

SIR JOHN FORBES.—Sir John Forbes, M.D., Physician to her Majesty's Household, expired on Wednesday week, in his seventy-fourth year. He deceased was the fourth son of the late Mr. Alexander Forbes, and was born at Cuttibræ in 1787. In 1814 and 1815 he was Flag Surgeon to the Commander-in-Chief in the West Indies, where he was present in several naval engagements, and received the naval war medal. In 1817 he graduated M.D. at Edinburgh University; in 1821 he introduced to the English practitioners the great discovery of auscultation by translating Laennec's treatise, and wrote an original work on the same subject in 1821. In 1826 he was appointed Physician in Ordinary to the late Duke of Cambridge, Physician Extraordinary to his Royal Highness the Prince Consort in 1830, and Physician to the Queen's Household in the following year. Sir John was an honorary member of the principal medical societies of Europe and America, one of the editors of the *Cyclopædia of Practical Medicine*, and the author of several professional and other works. He received the honour of knighthood in 1853, was a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians, a Doctor of Civil Law, Fellow of the Royal Society, and for several years consulting Physician to the Consumption Hospital.

J. H. H. FOLEY, M.P.—The death of J. H. H. Foley, Esq., A.P. for East Worcestershire, took place at his seat at Prestwood, near Stourbridge, on Wednesday evening week. The hon. gentleman was much respected in the county by all parties. He was a Liberal in politics, but a supporter of the agricultural interest. The announcement of his death was rather unexpected, and has set political parties in the eastern division on the qui vive.

SIR J. H. SCHÖEDER.—This officer expired on Thursday week at the advanced age of seventy-five. He began his military career at the commencement of the present century, and few officers had seen more service. In 1801 he served with his regiment during the Egyptian campaign, and was present during the Peninsular War from 1808 to the end of the campaign, taking part in the battles of Rolica, Vimeira, Talavera, Busaco, and Fuentes d'Onor, the sieges of Ciudad Rodrigo and Badajoz, the battles of Salamanca, Vittoria, Pyrenees, Nivelle, Nive, Orthez, and Toulouse, besides numerous other minor actions and skirmishes. He commanded a brigade in the China War, and was present at the attack and capture of Chapoo, Woosung, Shanghai, and Chin-Kiang-Too, for which services he was created a Knight Companion of the Order of the Bath, received the thanks of both Houses of Parliament, and was appointed one of her Majesty's Aides-de-Camp. In recognition of his services in the Egyptian campaign the deceased had received a gold medal from the Grand Signior, and for the Peninsular campaign the gold medal for Neville, and the silver war medal with fourteen clasps for the other engagements in which he took part. Sir James became a Major-General in the Army in 1854, and was at the time of his decease Colonel of the 55th Regiment.

COLONEL FARQUHARSON.—Colonel Farquharson, who died last week at Clifton, in his seventy-eighth year, served with the 65th Regiment at the capture of the Isle of France, in 1810; at the capture of the Fort of Nougur, in India, in 1814; against the Pindarees in 1814 and 1815; at

Katywar, on the Orizaba Staff, in 1815; at the capture of Jurin and other places in 1816; Darghee and Duraka; and in 1817 at the capture of Pooni, for which he received a medal. In 1818 he served at Astoria, where the Major-General, Goss, was killed and S. J. R. R. captured. In 1819 he served at the storm and capture of the Bojoe Fort in Cutch, and also those of Ras-el-Kyama and Zuma. He also served, in 1812, in Arabia, and was present in the action of Beni-Boo-Ab. He had held the office of Deputy Adjutant-General in Jamaica for ten years.

COMRADE BATES, R. N.—Commander Charles Bates, who has recently been promoted to the rank of Captain, was born in 1793, and entered the Navy in 1810, on board the *Combatant*, with which ship and the *Zenobia* he served on the Baltic, Home, American, and Lisbon stations. He was in attendance on the rock expedition against Boulogne, and took part in the subsequent sieges of Danzig and Copenhagen, as also in the operations of 1809 against Flushing, where the *Zenobia* had the honour of leading a division of the fleet. From 1810 to 1811 he was at the defence of Cadiz. On removing to the *Vengeur*, in 1812, he served on shore with the Army during the attack on New Orleans, and contributed to the fall of Fort Bowyer. This was the last hostile operation of the American War. At the time of his decease he was in his sixty-eighth year.

PUBLIC MEETINGS AND SPEECHES.

We have again had a flood of public speakers before us during the past eight days, and now proceed to lay before our readers a brief abstract of the various utterances which have been made:—

Mr. Disraeli made his first public appearance on Thursday week since the prorogation of Parliament. The occasion was the annual meeting of the Oxford Diocesan Church Building Society at Aylesbury. The right hon. gentleman's speech was, of course, confined to ecclesiastical topics. Upon the church rate question he advised, emphatically, a policy of "no compromise." The clergy, he argued, ought to uphold the rate in its integrity. The anti-church-rate party will, no doubt, be very happy to fight the battle upon this ground. Mr. Disraeli approves of the course which Convocation had agreed to pursue in the matter of the "Essays and Reviews." In regard to that book the right hon. gentleman said:—"I deeply regret the publication of that volume, for the sake of the writers, and for no other reason. I am myself in favour of free inquiry on all subjects, civil and religious, with only one condition—that the inquiry should be pursued with learning, with argument, and with conscience. But I think that we have a right to expect that free inquiry should be pursued by free inquirers; and, in my opinion, the principal authors of the work called 'Essays and Reviews,' being clergymen of the Church of England, had entered into engagements with society inconsistent with the results recommended in their publication. Dismising for a moment the character of the writers, I am not disposed to evade the question—Is there anything in that volume to occasion distrust among Churchmen? The volume in question is founded, generally speaking, on the philosophical theology of Germany. What is German theology? It is of the greatest importance that a clearer idea on that subject should be entertained than I have found hitherto to prevail in most assemblies of my countrymen. About a century ago German theology, which was mere mysticism, became by a natural law of reaction critical. A body of philosophic theologians gradually arose, and formed in the course of years a school which introduced a new system of interpretation of the Scriptures. They accepted without cavil the sacred narrative, but they interpreted supernatural events by natural causes, and they adopted as the name of their new system the title of Rationalism, and called themselves Rationalists. Supported by great learning and even greater ingenuity, the success of this school of philosophic theologians was transcendent. In the course of the fifty years in which it flourished, it absorbed the opinion of all the intellect of Germany, and very greatly influenced, no doubt, the opinions of all the Protestant States; but where is Rationalism and where are Rationalists now? They have ceased to exist; they have been erased from the intellectual tablets of living opinion. Another school of philosophic theologians arose in Germany, and with profound learning and inexorable logic they proved that Rationalism was irrational, and they substituted for the Rational scheme of the interpretation of the Scriptures a new scheme called the Mythical system. But if it be true, which undoubtedly it is, that the Mythical theologians triumphantly demonstrated that Rationalism was irrational, equally true is it that by this time the Mythical system has itself become a myth. The most eminent and most distinguished votaries of that school have enlisted their energies and devoted their powers to a new and all-triumphant development of German theology, which is now raging in that country, and which, in deference to the spirit of progress, which is the characteristic, as we are told, of the nineteenth century, and which generally ends in a recurrence to ancient ideas—this new system consists in a most able revival of Pagan Pantheism. Now, that is literally true sketch of the various phases through which the most intellectual opinion of Germany during the last century has passed. I ask you, is the Church to be alarmed by such overreaching and capricious speculations as these, and is society to be disturbed by a volume which is, after all, but a second-hand medley of these discordant, inconsistent, and self-destroying theories? But then, it may be said, are lucubrations of this nature not to be noticed and answered? I reply, both. Let them be noticed and answered, though I would say, in passing, that hasty replies almost always assist well-matured attacks. Let them be answered by those who are equal to the occasion, and I doubt not that many will come forward. Yet that a book of such a character, written by clergymen of the Church of England, should pass unnoticed by authority appears to me most inconsistent; therefore I may be permitted to say that I think the notice taken of it by Convocation does great credit to the discretion of that body. I think that Convocation, in the manner in which it dealt with that volume, showed that good judgment which gradually but surely is obtaining for it public opinion. Convocation denounced that which it deemed a pestilent heresy, but it did not recommend a prosecution of the heretics. I am bound to say myself that I wish the example of Convocation had been followed by others in high places. The wisest of men has said that for everything there is a season, and it does not appear to me that the nineteenth century is a season when the Church should punish error, but when it should rather confute it."

Mr. H. Berkeley, at a dinner in Bristol, vindicated the course taken by Earl Russell in declining to bring forward a Reform Bill last Session on the ground that the state of the world generally did not admit of the calm consideration which such a measure ought to receive. He again advocated the ballot; and in reference to the war in America he said:—"Let no one believe that the object is to get rid of American slavery. The Northern people are endeavouring to raise an anti-slavery cry. Why, these men have been the very means themselves of fostering slavery by refusing us permission to put it down. How the contest may end it is impossible to say; but I do say that the North can never subjugate the South so as to compel them to be their vassals. The only faint streak of daylight that I see in that miserable civil war is that I think a fatal blow has been given to slavery. And yet do not suppose that this is an anti-slavery war—it is no such thing. The fact is that America is an immense country, having two very different climates, and what suits one end of the country does not suit the other. The tariff that would bring prosperity to one end would bring ruin to the other; and they disagree upon matters of pounds, shillings, and pence. True, there is an earnest body of men—the Society of Friends—who consider slavery sinful, and would put it down by every means in their power. True it is that in the United States they are supported by an earnest body of religious men, but they are a very small minority even in the Northern States." In conclusion, Mr. Berkeley warned his hearers to be on their guard against the efforts of the Conservatives, who, he said, were making a desperate struggle, not for principle, but for power.

Mr. Leatham, M.P., has delivered a speech at the annual meeting of the Bursley Mechanics' Institution. He dwelt forcibly upon the mischievous influence which excessive taxation and an extravagant expenditure could not fail to exert upon the condition of the working classes. He also spoke at some length upon the dangers of an intermeddling foreign policy and of the fatal consequences to the progress of England which would result from her embarking in any European war.

Mr. Baxter has addressed his constituents in the Townhall, Arbroath. The leading topics of his speech were—1. The House of Commons and the last Session, on which subject he rebutted the charges made against the House of Commons in regard to the legislation of the Session. The House, he thought, had done its work quietly and well; and as for the absence of political excitement, of unbalanced conflicts between Whig and Tory, that, in a great measure, was accounted for by the healthy condition of the State. Men were quiet simply because they were contented; and they refused to take any interest in outdoor agitation because they are not aware of any crying grievance which requires instant redress. 2. Education and the revised code, in connection with which he said that, though blunders may have been committed as to the way and the time of promulgating that document, still its authors will confer a benefit on the country if they succeed in their praiseworthy endeavour to connect the grants more intimately with the results obtained, and if their efforts to improve it lead to a complete revision of, and a radical alteration in, the whole plan. 3. Colonial military expenditure, in reference to which he condemned the practice of the mother country paying the cost of the defence of the colonies, and maintained that each of these settlements should be made to contribute to the expenses necessary to ensure their own safety. Mr. Baxter also referred to the subject of the Olway contract, to the coals of the panics to which this country was subject about French invasions, and in speaking of the recent treaty with that country, passed a warm eulogium on Mr. Gladstone. In reference to the war in America, Mr. Baxter expressed his sympathy with the North, notwithstanding the vainglory, braggadocio, and abuse of this country which had been indulged in.

Sir Edward Colebrooke addressed a meeting of his constituents at Lanark. The hon. Baronet adverted to the question of Reform, the position of which he attributed in part to public apathy and in part to the practical difficulties that attach to every proposal for extending the suffrage. He strongly deprecated any intervention as regards the affairs of America, unless it might be the non-recognition of a merely partial blockade. He concurred with those who, in respect of the cotton trade, think that America's difficulty will be India's opportunity. He condemned a lavish expenditure on fortifications and military objects, holding that a watchful vigilance is sufficient for our protection without vastly-increased armaments, and (without any disparagement of the volunteer movement) that our Navy is the best defence. On the education question, while heartily lauding the Parochial School Act of last Session, he approved the object of the late Privy Council minutes, but condemned some of their proposed machinery.

Mr. Banks Stanhope, M.P., Mr. Nisbet Hamilton (better known as Mr. Christopher), Lord Henry Lennox, and others, have delivered speeches, the subjects treated by them being the current political and foreign topics of the day; but their speeches do not present any feature worthy of extended notice.

A Reform Conference was opened at Leeds on Monday, and was attended by some 200 delegates from all parts of the country. Mr. George Wilson presided, and delivered an able inaugural speech, in the course of which he gave some illustrations of the inequalities which exist in the present system of representation. The deliberations of Tuesday resulted in the adoption of a series of practical resolutions which had been previously prepared by the business committee. These resolutions expressed the dissatisfaction which was excited among the great body of the people by their exclusion from the franchise; and, while leaving Reformers to agree upon the precise extension of suffrage which they should demand, they advise that a friendly and united support should be given to any honest measure of reform. The Conference further recommends that a National Reform Association should be formed, and that a conference be held in Birmingham immediately before the opening of Parliament, and one in London immediately after that event. There was a vigorous debate upon the question of manhood suffrage. Mr. Stokes, of Manchester, proposed the introduction of a clause in favour of that object, but he ultimately yielded to the wishes of the majority, and withdrew his amendment.

The fifteenth annual Conference of the Evangelical Alliance was opened on Wednesday in Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street—Sir C. E. E. E. in the chair. The meeting was very thinly attended, there being only about thirty persons present. The subjects under consideration were—"Essays and Reviews," a resolution condemnatory of the teaching of which was passed; the better observance of the Sabbath; the duty of preserving Christian feeling in the midst of religious controversy; the persecution of Protestants in Spain, and the providing of this means of preaching the Gospel during the Great Exhibition next year.

In connection with the deliverances of opinion by public men we may notice two communications that have just been made public. One is a letter to his constituents by Sir De Lacy Evans, in which he again reverts to the system of purchase in the Army, which, he thinks, has not been fairly dealt with by the Government, and which ought to occupy a large measure of the attention of the people. The other is a letter which Mr. Bright has addressed to the Glasgow Council of Trades Unions on the subject of Parliamentary Reform, in reply to a communication which he had received from the secretary of that body. After adverting to the fact that at the present moment there were at least six millions of voters who enjoyed no political power whatever, the hon. gentleman touches upon both the merits and the defects of the Reform Bill of 1832, and states that, after a lapse of thirty years, it is now universally admitted that the arrangement then made can no longer be defended or maintained. This he shows by a reference to the Queen's Speeches and to the Reform Bills which have been introduced by successive Administrations, both Whig and Tory. He next remarks upon the insincerity of political parties in the House of Commons in their treatment of this question; and concludes with an earnest appeal to the unfranchised classes to engage heartily in their own cause, and especially to agitate through the medium of the organisations which they possess in almost every town.

ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.

EAST WORCESTERSHIRE.—Mr. Henry Foley Vernon, of Hanbury Hall, has come forward in the Liberal interest to supply the vacancy caused by the death of the late member, Mr. J. H. H. Foley, for the eastern division of Worcestershire. Mr. H. Foley Vernon is the proprietor of large landed estates in the county, and is the present representative of a family who have long and consistently held Liberal opinions. He proposed the late Mr. Foley at the last election for East Worcestershire, and has taken considerable interest in the volunteer movement in his county. The Conservatives do not intend to contest the seat.

FINCHLEY.—A great many gentlemen have been mentioned in connection with the vacancy in Finchley occasioned by the death of Mr. Dancombe. Among the names talked of are those of the Lord Mayor, Mr. S. Morley, Alderman Challis, Mr. Cox, Mr. Montague Chambers, Mr. Campbell Sligh, Mr. Henry Fawcett, Mr. E. Miall, Mr. Harper Twelvemore, Colonel De Bathe, Mr. Wakley, Mr. James Peto, Mr. Marshall, Mr. Charles Dickens, General Thompson, Mr. Torrens McCulloch, Sir John Lawrence, and Mr. John Dillon; but up to the time at which we write no definite movement has been made. Several meetings have been held, at one of which it was resolved that no candidate who did not support decidedly Liberal measures ought to receive the support of the constituency. The Conservatives, it is said, are holding back from taking any step till they see what is determined on by the Liberals.

CARLISLE.—The writ for Carlisle election arrived on Wednesday, and proclamation was made from the Market Cross that the nomination would take place on Monday and the polling on Tuesday next.

THE PROSECUTIONS FOR BRIBERY AT WAKEFIELD AND BEVERLEY.—Mr. Boyes, the defendant in the cases of bribery at the Beverley election tried at a recent York Assizes, and who was convicted of the offence, received notice from the Crown to attend before the Court of Queen's Bench on the 22nd inst. in order to receive judgment. With respect to the Wakefield cases, it is supposed that the press of business on the present term will interfere to prevent Mr. Charlesworth's appeal from being argued before Christmas. Mr. Leatham will not, of course, be called up for judgment until the Conservative candidate's appeal has been considered.

THE SMITHFIELD CLUB CATTLE SHOW.—On Saturday preparations were commenced at the Baker-street Bazaar to finish up the term of engagement with the Smithfield Club in a manner worthy of the establishment, and more than ordinary attention is being paid to the comfort of visitors to the ensuing show, so that ladies will be enabled to witness the last of the West-end exhibitions of fatted cattle with perfect facility. Amongst the novelties, although it is understood that they will not be entered as competitors for prizes, various breeds of cattle from the Florence Exhibition, of stupendous size and marvellous symmetry, will, it is anticipated, be exhibited, and form a marked contrast to several specimens of the diminutive Brittany cows, some breeds of which attracted so much attention, especially of the fair sex, last year, and which are amongst this year's entries. The show will have several additional classes, in accordance with resolutions adopted at the last annual general meeting of the Smithfield Club, and the money prizes have been increased to an extraordinary extent compared with former years, amounting in the cattle classes to £953, in the sheep classes to £300, and in the pig classes to £48, or a gross of money prizes amounting to £1400. The show will consist of forty-six classes, and, in addition to the money prizes already specified, there will be six gold medals awarded for the best steer or ox, the best heifer or cow, and for the best pen of long-wooled, the best pen of short-wooled, sheep, as also to the exhibitor of the best pen of pigs in any of the classes. Besides these a silver medal will be awarded to the breeder of the prize animal in every class, which, with the extra stock and the medal to the butcher who is the largest purchaser, makes a total of 38 silver medals. In the implement department there are many improvements to be submitted; and from the number of entries already received, and the character of the intended exhibitors, the last cattle show at the Baker-street Bazaar bids fair to be quite equal, if not superior, to any of its predecessors.

ROMANTIC CASE.—The agents on duty in the Marché du Temple, France, noticed, a few days since, a young girl, apparently a vagrant, who was endeavouring to sell a hair ring, a silver book-clasp, and other articles of trifling value. When asked to give an account of herself, she said that her name was Adeline Sauvais, that she was thirteen years of age, and had been for seven years past with a company of mountebanks, who had that morning abandoned her at Bicêtre. When taken before the Commissary of Police she repeated what she had already said, and also made the following statement:—"I was born at Thann, at Bischwiller (Haut-Rhin). About seven years ago my mother sent me out for a walk with the servant, and we went into the mountains to drink new milk. While there the servant entered a house and played and ran about till I got lost, when I met some mountebanks and went with them. I had a prayerbook with me, of which they tore the leaves, so that I could not read what was written in it; but I have kept the silver clasp. The company consisted of fourteen persons, four of whom were girls of about my age. When the company left Bicêtre the master would neither allow me to go with them nor let me have my clothes; but one of my companions gave me what I now wear." The girl persisted in this story before the tribunal, and the President postponed the further hearing till the 23rd inst. in order that proper inquiries might be made in the meantime.

Literature.

Martha Brown the Heiress. By the Author of "Dorothy." Parker, Son, and Bourn.

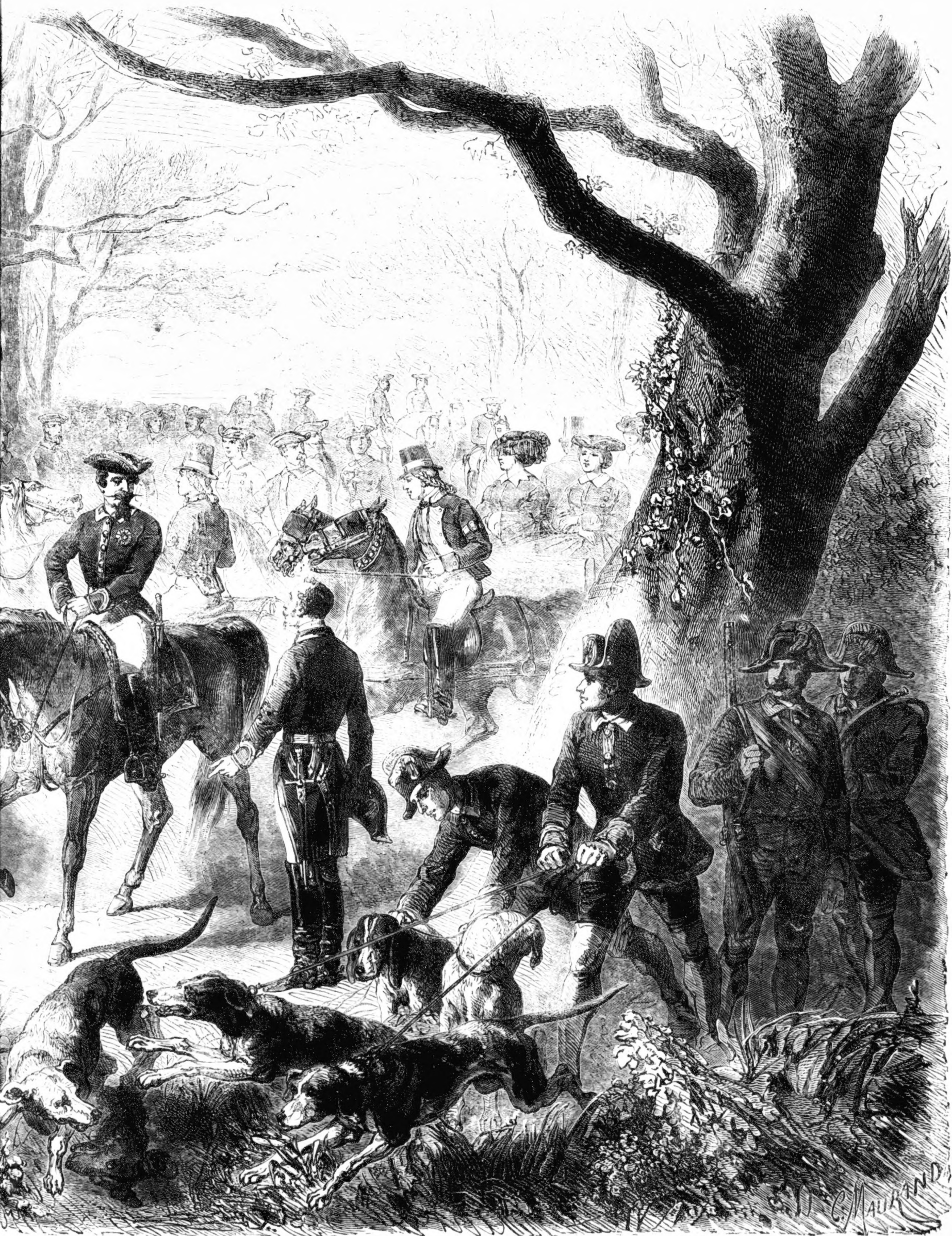
Whether the authors of clever readable novels of "good society" are conscious of a "mission" or not, there can, we think, be no doubt that they are fulfilling one. The majority of the readers of such books are, we suppose, persons who have not by birth or position been made free of the "best circles," though they are quite capable of adorning them so far as natural capabilities go. From such books—meaning exclusively good ones of the kind—they may catch the "tone," which is what is really desirable, of the *manière de vivre* to which they have not been trained, and be so far improved and raised in value as human beings. We are not saying anything for the ear of Mr. or Miss Snob: neither of them would understand. There is no advantage in the mere mannerism of the "best circles," and the solid virtues of the middle classes outweigh even the better culture of those circles; but, after all, the culture does exist and is a capital thing. Where a kindly self-restraint in minor matters is the law which everybody has learnt to obey, there is more room for freedom in greater things; character is more effective, and life is lived upon a higher level than is usual where the same self-restraint is not practised. Whatever advantage the "best society" (technically so called) may have over that of the intelligent middle classes is nowadays always being made intelligible, and to some extent popularised, as an influence or communication, by the sort of novel of which we are speaking. Nobody, for instance, of respectable middle-class breeding could read "Martha Brown" without feeling that there was something pleasanter than his own set could probably show in the way of manners. Not, however, that Martha herself is altogether pleasant—she is another specimen of the "plucky" girl of whom we now hear so much, and has a tart vigour about her which, if one's notions of women had not lately undergone such a bewildering *bouleversement*, one would say was not womanly.

Martha Brown, after the death of a very rich old uncle in London, retires to the country with an immense fortune. During his last illness her uncle had been attended by a Mr. Ambrose Arnold, a young surgeon of much character, who had a good deal attracted her attention, and who was a relative, as it turns out, of one of her neighbours, the Erles, in the district to which she goes. Not far off reside also her trustee, Mr. Benson, his son Lionel Benson, and the Wentworths, who all play parts in the story. Mr. Erle is the clergyman of the village, and is a good, sensible man, with an average wife (rather worldly-minded), and a daughter, Lucy, who is sweet-natured and only not quite silly. Martha's uncle had been a hard-headed, cynical fellow, who believed in no more goodness than he could help; and the quaint, fantastic, not wholly unobtrusive disinterestedness of Ambrose had made a strong impression upon her. On the other hand, he had fallen in love with her, though, of course, the idea of a young surgeon without practice proposing to a very wealthy heiress, or even letting his passion disclose itself through any of the clinks and crannies of ordinary behaviour, was out of the question. Under this state of circumstances, the country history of the parties concerned commences. Martha and Ambrose (who is on a visit) meet from time to time at the clergyman's, and snarl at each other according to the latest fashion of love-making. Lucy, commonplace girl as she is, soon guesses the truth. Martha proposes that Ambrose should make his stay in the country permanent and take the medical superintendence of a rising property of hers where the population was increasing. Much pressed by the Erles, Ambrose at last consents, and takes up his abode within a walk or a drive of Martha's house. It is easy to see what must come of this proximity. One day he lets fall an ambiguous sentence or two, and Lucy, when he is gone, finds Martha crying. She writes to Ambrose, with an energy disproportionate to her dulness, to tell him that he has either said too much or too little, and she thinks he had better take a walk over to Martha's next morning. He complies, and the young couple are "engaged" in a very few minutes—only Ambrose, who is still jealous of being suspected of fortune-hunting, insists upon the compact being kept secret for a year—a year being just the time which he allows himself for making such a position that he may, without being charged with fortune-hunting, address the heiress! Martha reluctantly consents, and the Erles, still more reluctantly, give in their adhesion to the suppression of what they think ought to be made known to Martha's trustees and not elaborately hidden even from the general public.

And now begin little complications and such annoyances as usually come of suppression, where half a dozen parties are concerned. The Erles get vexed at the small subterfuges to which they are obliged to resort, and, at last, the secret is disclosed. It seems that Lionel Benson, an insinuating gentleman, with light hair (against which the author has, perhaps, a prejudice), has formerly proposed to Martha and been rejected. He is now in love with Lucy, or fancies he is; and a sudden turn in a conversation with her one day gives him a hold of the concealed fact, which he speedily drags forth. He has reasons of his own for not wishing Martha to marry, at least just now, anybody but himself. In the meanwhile Mr. Wentworth, a suitable *parti*, is hanging about Martha, and does, in fact, propose to her, but is rejected. Lionel makes skilful use of him in his communications with Ambrose, excites the jealousy of the latter, and gets him to break off the engagement. There is of course much improbability in this, which, however, is lessened when you remember that Ambrose, owing to the desire for secrecy, had but little communication with Martha, and that, being in a false position, he was naturally irritable and distrustful. It is incredible, however, that he should have written to Martha to cancel the bond without making some allusion to persons or things which would guide so sharp a person to the fact that he was being tampered with.

The close of the story may now be precipitated, and is, perhaps, already foreseen by experienced novel-readers. Ambrose goes to Liverpool, and begins the world *de novo*. Martha and Lucy fly to Wales on a visit, for change of scene. Great care is taken, it will be perceived, to have Martha and Ambrose within hail of each other, and it proves to be just as well. One day Lionel surprises Lucy at a stile in Mr. Llewellyn's meadows, and asks her to fly with him; a thing which she is not predisposed to do, for she already knows, in part, of his treachery in *re* Martha. The fellow looks haggard, wan, and so scampish that Lucy beckons with her kerchief to a horseman not far off. It is Llewellyn the brave, who spurs his charger down to the stile and disperses the offending Lionel. Soon reappears Ambrose from Liverpool, in hot haste, with important news. Lionel and sire are gone to Australia, after having reduced Martha's yearly thousands to hundreds (and not many of those) by dishonestly speculating with funds not their own. It would be trivial to add that Ambrose and Martha are now married, and that Lucy is made happy with the invincible Llewellyn. Nothing so unlikely (in novel-world) would be credited if we were to say it. We shall, therefore, add that Martha takes a steamer-passage to Australia, and makes love to Lionel out of gratitude to him for breaking down her earthly tower of trust; that Ambrose, devoting himself to his profession, discovers a process which supersedes vaccination; while Lucy, the clergyman's daughter, is so disgusted with what she has now seen of life that she goes to the bad, and is recognised by her broken-hearted father as he is handing round the tea and plumcake at a midnight meeting. Those who doubt that this is a true account of the dénouement of "Martha Brown the Heiress" had better read the book for themselves and find out. If they will take our word they may rest assured that it is a very fair novel, and pervaded by a lofty and delicate sense of what is good and beautiful in conduct. The "plot" might have been more original, and the "plucky" girl is now becoming a bore; but a one-volume novel that you can really read is a capital thing, and so is critical tolerance.





THE FOREST OF COMPIEGNE.

COMPIEGNE.

THE events which have recently transpired at Compiègne have made it familiar to our readers, and, indeed, it has long held a place in French diplomatic history to which few other places can lay claim. Of what involutions of European politics, what attempts at coalitions never effected, what wily games of regal chess where knights, bishops, castles, and pawns were to be treated as mere toys, has this palace been the scene! What State secrets may not have been whispered on the solemn hunting-grounds—the chase itself only an opportunity for prolonging difficult discussions! How secret and seemingly sagacious, yet revealed by time, how artificial and transparent, have been the grave proceedings which, under the guise of Imperial hospitality and noble relaxation, occupied the august sportsmen! We have already described the occasions when the full hunt has brought with it the ancient ceremonies of starting the game—of pulling down the stag—of its dismemberment and distribution by torchlight in the palace court. It is always a grand fête, a brilliant masquerade. Often, as on the occasion of the little Prince making his debut, a fancy-dress display, the characters dressed in the costume of the time of the fourteenth Louis, the traditions, as much as may be, preserved inviolably. He, too, the Imperial infant, comes there upon his little pony to take part in the great formal pageant, and Kings by Divine right, or monarchs of the people's choice, alike share in the sport which the nation have ceased to dread, but still watch curiously when they hear of the Court at Compiègne.

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ILLUSTRATED TIMES.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 1861.

KINDNESS TO ANIMALS.

ON Sunday last, at the request of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, about two hundred sermons were preached in and about London either upon or bearing upon the subject named in our heading. Upon this matter we propose to say a few words, with a view to certain points which, perhaps, our reverend friends have not taken up in their discourses.

In the first place, then, we avow our conviction to be, that what is commonly called "kindness to animals" is the most ordinary form of cruelty. Animals, with the exception of those intended by Providence for domestic companionship, or for human use or food, are infinitely more happy when simply left alone to that life for which Nature has adapted them, than when converted to the purposes of human gratification by being trained and treated as pets. Of late there has been much sentimentalism expended, for instance, in the matter of birds. We have been instructed at length "to gain the affections of a bird," and taught to admire and appreciate its winning ways and its melodious song when in captivity. This is a bird-fancier's humanity. The philosopher should know, and the moralist should teach, that the most enduring, tantalising, and unnatural cruelty to which these little feathered innocents can be subjected is that of confining them at all, of cutting off the greatest of their animal gratifications—namely, that of flight—of preventing their free association with their kind, according to their own instinctive selection, and of pampering them with food which they themselves have not had the joyful labour of seeking. Under such circumstances, they may perhaps display a kind of partiality towards some especial human object, just as Silvio Pellico might prefer one of his gaolers to others, simply because this one showed more consideration and less brutality than the rest. But the barbarity of the imprisonment remains the same, nevertheless. To our minds there are few sounds more melancholy than the matin song of a caged lark, nor have we often seen more tragic exhibitions of utter, wild despair than that of a poor little feathered songster, just entrapped, vainly beating itself against the bars of its prison.

The same principle holds with respect to other animals. The most painful, most expressive, exhibition of dismal, hopeless, *ennui* ever beheld was probably that shown by the poor Arctic bear—well fed, well sheltered, and well tended—continuously pacing up and down his narrow den at the Zoological Gardens, and apparently breaking his big heart for lack of the privation, silence, snow, and desolation of his native region. That poor bear gave us the idea of the embodiment of the soul of some doomed dramatic critic, condemned to sit out eternal representations of one dreary five-act play, performed by a company of bad actors.

The pasturing animals, dependent upon the care and attention of man, require no greater amount of his attention than suffices for preserving their health and providing for their wants. A sheep or ox is much better treated when turned into a rich meadow than when petted and taught to take sops from the hand of its master. What is called "kindness" even towards domestic animals tends to deteriorate not only their qualities but even their breed. The most thoroughly contemptible of all animals is the fawning, overfed lapdog. The lop-ears of the spaniel and of the fancy rabbit are simple degenerations of species. In the state of nature these are erect, in order to serve the purpose for which they were originally intended, that of ever-active listening.

Let it not be supposed for a moment that we seek to extenuate even harshness to animals. We hold the crime of cruelty in utter contempt and abhorrence, and firmly believe

that the brute who would bludgeon an overworked jackass, flog a weary horse into spasmodic exertion, or burn out a bird's eyes to improve its chirping, needs only security and advantage to maltreat his wife, his children, or his mother. But our views of cruelty to animals take a wider range than that of the infliction upon them of actual physical torture. We hold it to be cruelty to keep a dog, as many do, chained for days together to his solitary kennel, or to derive gratification from a gallop upon the seashore upon the back of a belaboured donkey, even though the rider's hand may not be that which bestows the blows.

But the infliction of torment upon animals tends, by a merciful dispensation, to shorten their unhappy lives. The imprisonment of wild creatures does so in a far less degree, but it is questionable whether the distress thus caused be not equivalent, by reason of its duration, to the sharper agony. The dog chained to his kennel acquires a ferocity which leads him not unfrequently to bite his master. On the other hand, the petting of animals, the accustoming them to the caresses of human beings, has in it something unnatural. Human affections are far too precious to be cast away upon chirruping linnets, tame toads, or docile fish. The human being who violates this principle degrades himself. The other day the Rolls Court took cognisance of a fellow who petted a seal, which he used to wrap in blankets and lay in his bed to sleep. When the creature died, the man wept. When the story was told in evidence, the grim Chancery lawyers laughed, less in mirth than in contempt. It is against such misplaced, miscalled, kindness as this that we would warn our humane readers. Animals have their places—song-birds in the groves, wild beasts in the desert, fish in the waters or on the dinner-table. To divert these creatures from their natural resorts and objects, to bestow upon them the association and affection of mankind, degrades humanity, while it fails to elevate the brute.

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

THE PRINCE CONSORT has subscribed £100 to the National Shakespearean Fund.

THE QUEEN has conferred the honour of knighthood upon Patrick MacCormack Colquhoun, a member of the Legal Council of Corfu, who will in his turn act as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of that island in the coming year.

IT IS INTENDED THAT THE PRINCE OF WALES shall visit the Ionian Islands shortly after Christmas, and then proceed to Syria and Egypt. His Royal Highness will return to England before the opening of the Great Exhibition.

THE EMPEROR OF THE FRENCH, it is said, will pay a visit to her Majesty Queen Victoria during the International Exhibition in London.

PRINCE LEOPOLD arrived at Toulon on Tuesday evening week en route to the south of France. Lord Brougham arrived at Toulon the same evening on his way to Cannes.

EARL JERMYN, eldest son of the Marquis of Bristol, is about to marry Miss Geraldine Anson, youngest daughter of the late Major-General the Hon. George Anson and niece of Lord Forster.

IT IS REPORTED THAT MR. MACLISE has been offered a knighthood, which, like Mr. Thomas Fairbairn, he has declined.

LADY FRANKLIN, the widow of the great navigator, has paid a visit to Nevada, in North-western America, and was received with marked distinction by the territorial Legislature there.

MISS NIGHTINGALE is suffering from severe illness, and, it is said, has not herself any hope of recovery.

THE PRINCE DE LIGNE has been re-elected President of the Belgian Senate by 42 votes to 4, being the tenth time he has been so honoured.

THE ONSEQUELS OF LORD CHARLES BEAUCLERK, who so nobly lost his life in attempting to save those of others at Scarborough lately, took place in the cemetery of that town on Friday week, and were attended by his brothers Lords Frederick and George Beauchamp.

THE COMPANY OF MERCHANTS have voted a donation of fifty guineas to the National Life-boat Institution.

THE MAHARAJAH OF CASHMERE has ordered four complete stands of bairies with the requisite number of reeds and chanters. It is the intention of the Maharajah to organise a corps of native pipers on his return to India, having become a lover of pipe music during his stay in Scotland.

MR. HENRY EUGENE BARNES, a gentleman residing at Southsea, was last week fined 40s. and 18s. 6d. costs for smoking in a railway carriage on the direct Portsmouth line.

NEW CORN EXCHANGES are in course of erection at Norwich and Bury St. Edmunds, the increase of business rendering more commodious buildings necessary.

THE REV. ALAN LENDRUM, Principal of St. Margaret's College, Crieff, has failed for £15,000.

A LODGE OF MANCHESTER UNITY ODD FELLOWS is in course of formation in Peru.

A GREAT STIMULUS has been given to some departments of the worsted trade by the operation of the French tariff, and some of the largest houses in Bradford have received orders which will keep their machinery running till March next.

THE NORWICH POLITICAL UNION has adopted a memorial to Lord Palmerston praying his Lordship to take some action on the subject of Parliamentary Reform. The Union is also endeavouring to revive the reform agitation in Norwich.

THE WHITWORTH RIFLE is undergoing trials at the Imperial shooting establishment at Vincennes, the Emperor having sent eight Whitworth rifles with directions to thoroughly test their merits.

THE FOURTH VOLUME OF THE "CORRESPONDANCE DE NAPOLEON I." has just appeared. It contains all the letters written by the great Emperor between August, 1802, and the end of September, 1803.

THE DIVORCE ACT has recently come into operation in Melbourne, but up to Sept. 26 no cases had been tried under it, the notice that petitions could be received having only been published shortly before.

SOME WOLF-CUBS have recently appeared in the covers of Essex. It seems that the masters of hounds have been in the habit of importing fox-cubs, and that among these they received some young wolves, which in their babyhood much resemble young foxes.

THE ARGENTINE CONGRESS has passed a decree imposing an additional duty of 6 per cent ad valorem on goods hitherto taxed at 15 per cent, and of 3 per cent on goods hitherto paying 20 per cent.

THE SHIPMENT OF SPECIE AT SAN FRANCISCO from Jan. 1 to Sept. 20, 1861, amounted to nearly £5,000,000 sterling.

THE TOLLS hitherto levied at the bridges on the Rhine will be discontinued after the 1st of January next.

DURING A RECENT PERFORMANCE OF PATTI in DUBLIN, so enthusiastic did the audience become, that a bottle was thrown, in lieu of a bouquet, on the stage from the upper gallery, as she was making her exit. Patti exclaimed, "How very strange! Was there anything in it?"

THE POLISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY held a meeting on Monday to commemorate the death of the late Lord Dudley Stuart, the earnest and consistent champion of the cause of Poland.

M. KUSEL, of Bruchsal, an advocate of the Jewish persuasion, has been elected deputy for Carlsruhe. He is the first Jew ever returned to the Baden Chamber.

AN ORDER has been received at Portsmouth to hold in readiness for active service, at an hour's notice, all the gun-boats in the first-class reserve at that port.

LABOR SUPPLIES OF CONICAL SHOT, common and segment shells, with other stores, are daily landed at Sheerness, for the 100-pounder Armstrong guns, which are ordered to be mounted on the sea-face of the fortifications at the entrance to the River Medway.

JAMES WALLER, who shot the gamekeeper of Mr. T. Horsfall, of Hawke, worth £14, lately, has been apprehended in a barn, near the scene of his crime, in an emaciated and starving condition.

THE NAVIGATION BETWEEN CROSSHART AND ST. PETERSBURG is closed by ice.

THERE ARE AT PRESENT 17,310 persons occupied on the Roman railway line from Capri to Capriano, of whom 6781 are women. In that country the women work very hard; they serve the masons, and earn eighty-five centimes a day.

ON AND AFTER THE 1ST OF JANUARY NEXT letters posted in the United Kingdom for Natal must be prepaid, or they will be charged an additional 6d.

SNOW fell in large quantities for two hours on Saturday morning in Paris. It rained incessantly for several days afterwards.

A TEN-MILE RACE between Daefton, Mills, and Brighton, for £50, was run at Portsmouth last week. The contest lay between Daefton and Mills, the former winning by seven yards, having completed the whole distance in 55 min. 15 sec.

AT THE SESSION of the Board of Missions of the Episcopal Church recently held in Philadelphia it was resolved by a small majority that the board would decline to pay the salaries of all clergymen who, on account of Secession proclivities, should disclaim connection with the Episcopal Church of the North.

THE WEAVERS at Mr. B. R. Jackson's mill, Blackburn, struck work last week, to the number of 1700. The reason assigned for the stop was bad material. Mr. Jackson's mill is one of the largest in the town, and employs some 2000 workpeople, who have been on full time.

SPECIMENS OF COTTON FROM CHINA have been submitted to the inspection of some eminent Liverpool brokers, and pronounced to be worth 1s. 1½d. per lb., while good fair New Orleans is quoted at 1s. 0½d. per lb.

ON THE 12TH INST. FOUR MEN, named Denis Bohan, Charles McCarthy, Daniel and Denis Mahony, all small farmers, were accidentally drowned while taking in their nets by the upsetting of their boat in Bantry Bay during a storm.

SIR WILLIAM AND LADY DON were at the date of the last advices from Australia playing at Sandhurst. They were shortly to return to the Theatre Royal, Melbourne, and play there over the Christmas holidays.

THE ARRIVALS OF WHEAT AT MARSEILLES continue without interruption. On the 12th 72,500 hectolitres were received, and on the following day 37,210. The quays are all covered with corn. Some shipments have already taken place for England, in order to clear away the surplus quantity in the market.

A TEMPEST SWIFT OVER BRUSSELS on the night of Wednesday and the whole of Thursday week, doing considerable damage, and burying a woman in the debris of a high wall which was blown down. The woman was much injured, but not killed.

A BULL-CALF was recently sold by Mr. S. E. Bolder to Mr. Thos. Atherton for 500 guineas. Comparing the price with the weight of the animal, he fetched about 5s. an ounce, or 80s. a pound.

THE ROTUNDA AT WOOLWICH, appropriated for the preservation and display of models and ancient military trophies, &c., has been ordered to be closed to the inspection of the public until after Christmas, in order to carry out some necessary repairs and make a considerable addition to its present contents.

IN OMAGH CHURCH, Derry, a few days ago, William McFarland, aged eighty-three, and Anne Nixon, aged seventy or upwards, were united in wedlock. The hale and hearty bridegroom had been three times previously bound in and freed from Hymen's chains, and the buxom widow had already had three husbands. The bridegroom has six great-grandchildren.

SEVEN THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED AND FIFTY BALES OF FOREIGN RAGS were offered for sale at Liverpool during October, and 4500 bales were sold. Three thousand seven hundred came from Egypt, 317 from Messina, 42 from Ancona, 552 from Lignora, 638 from Smyrna, 59 from Trieste, 200 from Spain, 50 from Hamburg, 109 from Odessa, 50 from the United States, and 271 from Australia.

IT APPEARS FROM OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS that while in 1858 the Venetian customs produced 3,931,700 florins (the florin is 2s. 3½d.), in 1860 the revenue derived from this source did not exceed 2,396,212 florins; and, judging from the produce of the first six months of the present year, amounting to 1,173,235 florins, the customs revenue of 1861 will be lower still.

THE ARSENAL OF MANTUA has been emptied of all its arms and materials of war, which have been transported to Vienna. The garrison is composed of 4000 or 5000 Slaves. General Stanoevic, who evinced conciliatory tendencies, has been recalled, and it is believed that his place will be filled by the notorious General Urban.

MR. EDWIN JAMES has been admitted a member of the New York bar.

MR. BRIGHT, M.P., will be entertained at a public dinner in Rochdale on Wednesday, the 4th proximo.

GEORGE INKPEN has been committed for trial on the charge of murdering Margaret Elmonds, who was found drowned in the Surrey Canal, as mentioned in our last Number.

A STEAM-SHIP is said to have sailed from the Thames on Sunday last loaded to the decks with arms and ammunition for the Confederate Government in America.

A SCULLERS' MATCH FOR £100 was rowed on the Thames on Tuesday between John McKimney, of Richmond, and George Drevitt, of Chelsea. Drevitt came in first, but, having previously fouled his opponent, was adjudged to have lost the race.

PRINCE NAPOLEON is expected in London shortly to preside at the organisation of the Imperial Commission for the Great International Exhibition, and will probably remain in England some time.

THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF COPENHAGEN has, by the unanimous vote of that learned body, admitted as a member his Imperial Highness Prince Louis Lucien Bonaparte.

AT ROUEN, a few days since, twin sisters, the wives of two workmen, at a few hours from each other, gave birth each to twin boys.

COTTON-GROWING has commenced in British Guiana, and with a probability of success.

GENERAL CARBONELLI, a Garibaldian, has gone to Capri to present an address to Garibaldi, from the Neapolitans, praying him not to leave Italy.

IT IS STATED THAT SEVERAL STEAMERS HAVE BEEN INSURED IN LONDON for the run from England to New Orleans and back for twenty guineas per cent.

IN THE COURT OF ARCHES, on Saturday, Dr. Lushington passed sentence of deprivation in the case of Mr. Heath, whom he recently adjudged to have been guilty of publishing heretical opinions. Mr. Heath appealed to the Judicial Committee of Privy Council.

THE POPE is to be a contributor to the International Exhibition of 1862. The Papal Government has applied for and obtained space in the building, and a Papal commissioner is to accompany to London the articles intended for exhibition.

GENERAL BIXIO has been wounded in the hand in a duel with a Sicilian officer with whom he had had a quarrel during Garibaldi's campaign in Naples.

THE AMERICAN SHIP MARITANA has been totally wrecked near the entrance of Boston harbour, U.S., and twenty-four of her passengers and crew drowned.

MR. J. W. WALTON has just completed the portraits of Lords Randolph and Elcho for the Volunteer Service Club. The likenesses, which are full-length an 1½ life-size, are very faithful, and the execution is highly creditable to the artist.

A DEPUTATION waited upon Lord Palmerston on Wednesday to urge the propriety of embanking the south as well as the north side of the Thames. His Lordship expressed his concurrence in the views of the deputation, and promised to communicate with Mr. Cowper on the subject.

SIR T. PHILLIPS delivered the opening address of the 108th session of the Society of Arts on Wednesday night. He referred at length to the International Exhibition of 1862, an undertaking in which the society naturally takes the deepest interest.

GENERAL CIALDINI HAS ARRIVED IN PARIS. It does not appear that there is any political significance attached to the circumstance.

THE BLACK PRINCE IRON-PLATED SHIP.—A preliminary trial of the speed of this new war-ship was made at the measured mile in Stokes Bay, Portsmouth, on Tuesday, and the result is said to be highly satisfactory. The vessel sailed well, having attained a speed of fourteen knots and a half an hour, although the circumstances under which the trial was made were far from being favourable, the ship being out of trim, and the coals used being of inferior quality. The machinery worked well, and the regular trials are expected to yield still more favourable results.

SUICIDE AT HANWELL.—An inquest was held on Saturday in the hall of the Hanwell Lunatic Asylum on one of the inmates there, who had previously been pronounced to be so far recovered that his discharge from the asylum was about to be made out. The suicide was greatly facilitated by the lax arrangements at the asylum, where it seems to be the practice of the warders to allow the patients to clean the table-knives, and that without any kind of superintendence.

THE LOUNGER AT THE CLUBS.

Disraeli has, evidently with a forethought and a purpose, determined to enter upon a new phase of public life. He has passed through many changes since he left his father's house. He first went to a solicitor's office,

But, doomed a father's hopes to grief,
He found a stanza where he should ingress.

At all events, he preferred literature to law. He began his literary career as a writer in a daily paper, and propounded in its columns doctrines so outrageously despotic that the readers of the paper must have stared and gasped for breath as they perused the article. He then recoiled into Radicalism. Afterwards he went to Parliament as a Conservative, and joined Sir Robert Peel as a leader whom he was proud to follow; suddenly he became one of the great Minister's fiercest assailants when he proposed to repeal the corn laws. Then, after the death of his friend Lord George Bunsick, he mounted to the post of leader of the Conservative party in the House of Commons; and now he comes out in a new character as champion of the Church. The speech at Aylesbury was very clever in its way; and no doubt he astonished the natives of Bucks by his eloquence and varied knowledge.

And still they gazed, and still the wonder grew,
That one small head could carry all he knew.

But the Conservative leader's speech was more showy than sound; and it contains statements which must have astonished the Bishop of Oxford and some of his learned brethren. For example—Mr. Disraeli said in substance "that German Rationalism was proved to be a myth; that the Mythical system which followed has already become a myth; and that the Germans have now found an invincible solution of the mysteries of existence in the revival of a Pagan Pantheism." Now, all this is epigrammatically put, but, unfortunately, it is not true. The Mythical system of interpretation is not distinct from Rationalism, but is essentially rationalistic. Nor has Rationalism passed away, as Disraeli would have us believe. It is as much in the ascendant as ever in Germany, has seized and holds the cultured mind in America, and is, for good or for evil, spreading fast in England, as the Bishop of Oxford well knows. What Disraeli means by "Pagan Pantheism" it is hard to say; but if Pantheism does prevail, it is the Pantheism, falsely so called, of Spinoza, who, I learn, from certain novels on my shelves, is a great favourite of Disraeli. Mr. Disraeli is, then, a Defender of the Faith; and, considering what he has written, his race, and associations, the Church has surely a very singular champion.

The Bishop of Oxford's speech, which followed that of Mr. Disraeli, contains a sentence worthy to be written in letters of gold. Disraeli had been exhorting to unity; whereupon my Lord Bishop said: "Insincere men can be easily united. Dead bodies pack close; and as the work of corruption advances the embrace becomes tighter. Living bodies must have room for living limbs to play; and living thoughts, and living convictions too, must have their lawful room to act according to their kind." Hear, hear, my Lord Bishop! Nor Plato, nor Bacon, ever uttered a wiser saying than this.

Mr. Leatham has had the honour to be the subject of an article in the *Saturday Review* and a leader in the *Times*; and both articles exhort Mr. Leatham to go in next Session for a reduction of the Estimates if he is discontented with the expenditure, and blame Mr. Leatham for wasting his energies in agitation upon the platform. But, with all due deference to such authorities, it has long been settled that the way to carry anything in the House is to create first a public opinion in its favour out of doors. Burke laid down this principle years ago, and the wisdom of it has been shown in many remarkable instances since; and I, who know the House of Commons well, venture to assert that all attempts to lower our expenditure until public opinion be roused in favour of economy will be as futile as Mrs. Partington's labour to push back the Atlantic with her mop. For years Mr. Williams and others have been criticising the Estimates, and the only result, as Mr. May tells us in his *Constitutional History of England*, is that in 1853 they knocked off the salary of £300 a year paid to one Otto Mündler, a travelling picture-buyer. This, and no more, has been achieved by our economical reformers. And this great saving was effected more out of spite to the National Gallery managers than from motives of economy.

During the last week two members of Parliament have slid away behind the dark curtain—Mr. John Hodgkiss Hodgkiss Foley, member for East Worcestershire, and Mr. Thomas Slingsby Duncombe. Mr. Foley was an old member of Parliament. He came into the House, in 1821, for Droitwich; sat for that borough until 1831; took it for East Worcestershire in 1847, and has held it ever since. Mr. Foley was a Liberal, but he was a silent member. His death, I think, I think, have been somewhat sudden, for he looked well and hearty last Session. He was only sixty-two years of age. His son, a member for South Staffordshire. East Worcestershire has been, since the Reform Bill, variously represented by Liberals and Conservatives; but in 1859 two Liberals were returned.

The bulletin which announces the death of Mr. Thomas Duncombe tells us that he was afflicted with chronic bronchitis, and that the immediate cause of his death was disease of the heart; and this may be true, but it certainly is not all the truth. The fact is that Mr. Duncombe has for years been dying of consumption, and that he could be sustained in such an emaciated and diseased body has been a wonder of all who knew him. Formerly Mr. Duncombe was a handsome, well-formed, active, and lively man as you would find in a day's march; but for several years he has been a mere wreck of his former self, and if he had dropped down dead whilst speaking nobody would have been surprised. Mr. Duncombe entered Parliament in 1821, through the borough of Hertford, which place he represented until 1832; but he had a desperate struggle to maintain his seat, for he had to wage war with the Marquis of Salisbury, and every body who is acquainted with the noble Marquis knows what that means. It is said that Mr. Duncombe spent over £50,000 in the attempt. It is a wonderful sum, but that Mr. Duncombe could afford to spend is considered still more wonderful. He was obliged, at last, for in 1832 he was outbribed and defeated. He managed, however, to disappoint the voters, for on petition the election was declared void, and the writ was suspended for that Session. Meanwhile, in 1831, a vacancy occurring for Finsbury, he got in for that borough. Mr. Duncombe was, I think, the most permanently popular man that I ever knew, and I think his popularity was to be attributed, not so much to his faithfulness to his principles, which was, however, a notable feature in his character, as to his zeal in attacking flagrant jobs, and seeking redress for personal grievances, and also to his accessibility, kindness, and overflowing good-humour. It is remarkable that he and Sir James Graham should die within a few weeks of each other, for the Knight of Netherby and "Tommy Duncombe" were sworn friends in their early youth, whilst in 1811, the subject of the opening of Mazzini's letters, they were at odds.

Mr. Edward Baines, Mr. P. Forster, and others have been trying to blow up a Reform agitation at Leeds, but with no great success at present. Nor will they succeed. In 1831-2 the middle classes deserted themselves. The manufacturer left his mill, the tradesman deserted his shop, and business was suspended until the bill, which was nothing but the bill, became law; and if the working men wish to be enfranchised they must do the same, and until they do there will be no enfranchisement for them. It was told the farmer said "I will reap the corn myself;" that the whole old bird in the fable thought it necessary to move her brood.

Lord Henry Lennox, son of the late Duke of Richmond and another of the present, has been advocating economy and retrenchment and landing the French treaty. His Lordship has several times shown signs of drifting from his old Conservative moorings. And why not? His grandfather was a Radical Reformer, and his father was in Earl Grey's Ministry.

The aggregate amount of drawback allowed to the papermakers and stationers on their stock in hand on Oct. 1, the day on which the objectionable paper duty came to an end, will of course not be generally known until a return is presented to Parliament; but that it will be something considerable may be gathered from the fact that one firm of wholesale stationers, the largest, however, in London, and indeed in the world—Messrs. Spalding and Hodge, of Drury-lane, will have to receive no less a sum than £16,689 12s. 8d. The task of weighing their stock of paper was a laborious one. The entire series of vaults beneath St. Martin's Hall were engaged by the firm for the purpose, and here the excisemen, assisted by a staff of porters, were occupied for upwards of a fortnight. During this period 101,520 reams of paper were weighed, the total weight amounting, I hear, to 2,200 tons.

THE THEATRICAL LOUNGER

Mr. Boucicault's new drama "The Octoroon" was produced at the Adelphi on Monday night. It had been long advertised, and would have been produced a week earlier but that at a rehearsal on the Saturday some friends of the author suggested a change in the cast of character and certain improvements in the scenery. Like a wise man Mr. Boucicault did not scorn friendly advice, and hence the unavoidable delay. "On horror's head horrors accumulate." The public, duly sensation-nurtured by "The Colleen Bawn," expected even a greater sensation in its successor. A "tremendous leader" had grown tame. Would not something more tremendous, more exciting, more dangerous, be given? By no means. The new piece is decidedly not a sensation drama, it has but one scene, a slave sale, in which the sympathies of the audience are aroused beyond the usual melodramatic pitch. It is a good drama, well written, interesting, portraying an aspect of life with which the British public is unfamiliar, but it will never become a town-talk or achieve the wondrous abnormal popularity of "The Colleen Bawn."

The scene is laid in Louisiana, and the story turns on the love of a young planter for an Octoroon girl, the daughter of his deceased uncle by a Quadroon slave. Ever so slight a tinge of black blood being in this girl's veins, by the law of the land she is forbidden to marry a white man, and thus, though her heart is given to her young lover, she cannot be his wife. But this is not the worst portion of her plight. She is beloved by a wealthy scoundrel, who discovers some informality in the papers relative to her freedom, who has her put up to auction with the other slaves at the general sale of the estate, and who finally buys her, despite the large offers made by other planters, old friends of the family, who wish to restore her to freedom. To escape the hateful position of this man's mistress, the Octoroon girl poisons herself and dies in her lover's arms. It is pleasant to find that the villain himself does not escape, being killed by an Indian whose pet companion he had murdered, and had then accused the Indian of the crime.

Whatever success "The Octoroon" may achieve will be due to its intrinsic merits and to the manner in which it is acted, as the scenery is by no means striking. The acting is very good. Mr. Boucicault plays a Yankee overseer with quiet, unexaggerated humour; Mrs. Boucicault is a charmingly-simple representative of the unfortunate Octoroon girl; Mr. Emery is the most picturesque of villains; and a Mr. Jamison, an importation from New York, is perhaps the best and truest representative of negro character ever seen in England. The house was full on the first night, and there was a good deal of applause, but on the fall of the curtain a strong discontented party made themselves heard. The *Times* critic mildly suggests that the dissenters were displeased at the fact of the slave-girl dying instead of being made happy. Mr. Boucicault, in a letter to the editor, explains it by suggesting that our sentiments are now pro-South and pro-slavery.

THE LATE GALES.

Reports continue to be received of the damage done in the recent gales. On the north coast several colliers are stated to have been lost, and considerable injury has been occasioned to the fleet of fishing-vessels which happened to be out at sea when the storm came on. The greater number of the craft of both classes which had been missing for several days have put into port, but there are a great many vessels unaccounted for, and serious apprehensions are entertained regarding them.

On Monday the crew of the Norwegian brig Union, of Preidenstadt, bound to Dover with deals, were landed from a Russian Finland barque. The Union was totally wrecked in the North Sea in the late gales. The captain and crew were saved by the Russian Finn, which was sailing in company with the Norwegian. The whole company were in a very miserable state when taken to the Dover Sailors' Home. Several of the men were severely bruised from the shifting of some part of the cargo on deck.

The heavy gales of last week appear to have raged with even greater fury on the Continental shores of the North Sea and the Baltic than on the British coast. Among the more serious of the many wrecks which were reported recently is the total loss of the Lion steamship, 1100 tons, trading between Hull and St. Petersburg, which took place near Ostergarn, on the island of Gotland, in the Baltic. The ship is a total wreck, but the crew were saved. On the coast near Texel and Terschelling some fifteen vessels are reported to have been lost. A large Norwegian barque, called the Jason, Captain Bessen, bound to Antwerp, from Alexandria, was stranded near Texel. The only one on board who was saved was the pilot. The whole of the crew were drowned, and the ship and cargo totally lost. A large Russian barque, the Itelcyen, bound to London, from Jacobstadt, was wrecked, having been blown ashore by the gale. The crew were saved. A Prussian schooner, the Vorwaerts, laden with barley, bound to Wilsbech, was stranded, and several of the unfortunate crew were drowned. The ship and cargo were lost. A catalogue of disasters has been communicated from Helsingland, Ostergarn, and other places near the mouth of the Elbe, where the storm is described as having been very severe. Notices from the Hague also furnish long lists of casualties resulting from the recent severe weather. Several ships are stated to have been stranded. The flag-ship, Captain Hargrave, from Antwerp for Ipswich, which was blown up the coast by the gale, went ashore at Loozduin, and two or three of the crew are stated to have perished. Similar accounts have been received from more northern ports, and it is feared that the full extent of mischief occasioned by the gales is yet to be learnt.

A violent storm raged on the French coast, the effects of which have been most disastrous. Five fishing-boats have been lost on the sands at Baples, Cayek, and Camiers. The boats belonged to the port of Berck. The crew, consisting of thirty-two men, perished in the nights of the 15th or 16th. Among the victims are twenty-one heads of families. Similar disasters have occurred at O-tend and other places.

Early on Saturday morning snow commenced falling in heavy showers in Yorkshire, the high moors having very great drifts, and the roads being buried. In attempting to cross in the direction of Exton during the night a gentleman nearly lost his life, being found quite exhausted and unable to speak. A farmer leaving Farndale found a beggar-woman on the road in a similar condition. The cold was intense. The rivers of the vast district draining to the Ouse and Humber have all overflowed, and many thousand acres of grass lands are rendered useless to the farmer till spring by the deposition of mud.

IMPORTANT LIFE-BOAT SERVICES.—During the fearful gales of the 2nd and 13th insts. the life-boats of the National Life-boat Institution have been providentially the means of rescuing the following numerous shipwrecked crews from an inevitable and appalling death:—Lugger *Sandy Lass*, of Lowestoft, 11 hands; schooner *Fly*, of Whitby, saved vessel and crew of 1; smack *Adventure*, of Harwich, 10; pilot-boat *Whim*, of Lowestoft, 7; barque *Undaunted*, of Aberdeen, 11; brig *Lively*, of Clay, Norfolk, 5; barque *Robert Watson*, 5; schooner *Aunchincurvie*, 6; and schooner *Friends*, of Lynn, 1—total, sixty-three; making an aggregate total of two hundred and seventy persons rescued from a watery grave by the life-boats of the institution during the present year alone. It is gratifying to know that the whole cost of some of these life-boats which have thus rendered such important services to the cause of humanity was presented by benevolent persons to the society. The National Life-boat Institution has now a fleet of nearly one hundred and twenty life-boats under its management, which require a large and increasing amount to keep them in a state of efficiency and ready for instant service, either by day or night. To man these life-boats there is arising a race of heroes—iron men, who no danger deters, whom no storm deters from a vocation scarcely less exacting than that of the pilot—the task of saving human life. The Royal National Life-boat Institution is one of the glories of Britain. Looking at it, we can say to every foreign potentate, "Go thou and do likewise." The charity which is shown in the bestowal of one craft is a charity that is visible and is felt. It is a substantial investment in the bank of mercy, in which the dividends are sure. It goes to swell no secretary's salary, to

settle a minister's pocket. The good Samaritan left two once at the inn for the man who had fallen among thieves, and knew that he would have substantial relief. The English Samaritan who gives a hundred pounds can see the boat built by his munificence launch amidst cheers of hearty mariners—can see her battling unconquered with the waves—can see her reach the sinking ship—can see her gallant crew rescue the despairing wretches who cling with blue hands, and with biny death at their very mouths, to broken pieces of the wreck.

MEDIÆVAL AND RENAISSANCE FURNITURE IN THE SOUTH KENSINGTON MUSEUM.

ANCIENT VENETIAN CHAIRS.

The collection of works of art at South Kensington, extensive and varied as it is in every department, is particularly rich in fine examples of Mediæval and Renaissance furniture. The acquisition of the collection formed by M. Soulaiges, of Toulouse, which was recently purchased after having been rescued from the auction-room by the spirited efforts of the art-treasures committee at Manchester, where it was exhibited, has added in a very important manner to the completeness and excellence of the museum generally, but especially in furniture. Our Engraving shows the room in which the chief of these objects are brought together. The splendid carved oak and walnut cabinets and armchairs arranged along one side are from the Soulaiges Collection. They are remarkable examples of the style in vogue in France in the early and middle part of the sixteenth century. Unfortunately, it is impossible to show everything in our View, and therefore we must refer only to the magnificent coffers carved in chestnut-wood, the tables, the buffets, and the unrivalled sets of chairs of the Cinque Cento period, some of which we are enabled to show, however, in a separate Engraving. The full beauty of all these objects can only be appreciated by a visit to the museum; and we trust that the remarks we may have to offer may induce many to go and see for themselves, when we can safely pronounce a rare enjoyment in the wonderful variety of design and the admirable art-workmanship displayed, especially in the articles of furniture.

The colossal statue which rises such a prominent object in this view is a cast of one of Michael Angelo's famous works, the David, which stands at the entrance of the Palazzo Vecchio at Florence. In the room which our Engraving represents there are several small models in wax, studies and sketches by the great sculptor's own hand, and amongst them is one of this noble statue, the David. It is only three inches and a half high, and wants the arms, but it is a most precious relic of the first thoughts of the greatest genius in sculpture since the age of the antique. This, with the other invaluable models by M. Angelo and his pupils, was purchased from the Gherardini Collection for the sum of £2110 granted by Parliament.

It is remarkable that the form of the most ancient chairs of which any authentic representation exists has been chosen by the Italian carver of the chair of which No. 1 is an Engraving. This form agrees essentially with that of a chair which was discovered at Thebes in an excellent state of preservation, and in the ancient frescoes which are preserved in the Egyptian Salon of the British Museum some of these chairs are painted. Antiquarians consider that the ancient Egyptian chairs of this kind were made to fold, as the example we are speaking of does; for the supports are made of slips of wood of a curved X shape fitted together, and allowing of a sliding of one set within the others. The Egyptian chair of this form was made of ebony inlaid with ivory; the set of chairs of which this is one are of walnut-wood. The ancient Greek and Roman chairs of state were commonly of this shape, which has got the name of a *curule* chair. It is seen in many antique sculptures, on the painted vases, and two formed of bronze are still in existence in the Naples Museum which were found at Herculaneum, though these are much lower than those used in after times, and were probably raised upon a pedestal when occupied. The *cathedra* of the stage, however, was made of marble. The so-called "Chair of St. Peter," which is preserved in the Vatican, is a bronze chair of the curule form; and the "Chair of Dagobert," formerly kept in St. Denis, and now to be seen in the Musée des Souverains in the Louvre, is another example of the antique chair being handed down to mediæval times. The chair No. 1 might be mistaken for mediæval work were it not for the coat of arms carved in the centre of the back; but even this may have been added, as it has a somewhat later character than the work of the carving of the frame. The date of these chairs is considered to be not later than 1550. They form a set of fourteen, each one having some varieties in the carving, and the shields bearing the arms of different families. Unlike the other chairs of the group, these armchairs are very comfortable to sit in; and, fitted with cushions, would be quite luxurious articles of furniture. In the Soulaiges Collection, from which all the chairs in our illustration came to the South Kensington Museum, there is another set of four folding armchairs made in polished smooth wood, probably walnut, inlaid with ivory mosaic work in small geometrical patterns of circles and lozenges, with fine inlay of filets in white wood. These are extremely handsome, and, when fitted with rich old damask and gilt nails with acorn heads, are a good example of the splendour of the Italian palaces. This set of chairs is known by the device upon them to have belonged to Duke Guidobaldo II., of the Urbino family, who began to reign in 1552 and died in 1571.

The chair No. 2 is a fine example of Italian carving in the boldest manner of the Cinque Cento period. The design of the front support is excellent, original, and strikingly bold; the composition formed by the wings of the two sphinxes meeting over the head of the mask, and the general sweep of the figures terminating in scrolls, is quite a study. The artist, too, showed himself a master in diminishing the importance of the work at the feet, but still with the finish of two masks capably carved. The back, which is curved slightly to the seat, is also very good in design. Two winged mermaids support the escutcheon at the top, and at the sides the sphinx is repeated, but as a terminal figure. The spaces on each side of the centre stile are very gracefully and appropriately filled with a vine branch. The wood is probably dark oak. The height of these chairs is about 3ft. 2in.

A more elaborate and costly chair is shown in Engraving No. 3. The style of the work is similar to that in the chairs just described, but perhaps rather later; and, though the work is enriched with gilding, as seen by the portions showing bright in the Engraving, on the whole it is scarcely in such good taste as the chair No. 2, although in splendour and dazzling display it would attract more attention. Both the support in front and the back are carved in the boldest manner and through cut. At the sides of the support are sphinxes, with ingeniously interlaced cartouche-work, having a fierce mask in the centre, with drapery hanging from the mouth. The back is a clever variation of the same design, with a centre bearing a shield and arms with blazon. The top rail is a kind of cornice, on which are two amorini holding a depending scarf. There are only two of this pattern chair: they are 3ft. 6in. high, and in very dark wood.

It will be remarked, no doubt, that the luxurious fancy of the artist and his taste for ornament completely absorbed his attention while designing these chairs. They are by no means to be used to sit upon; they were to look grand and strike the visitor with amazement as soon as he entered the ante-room or hall of the ducal palace, and, with the surrounding breadth of colour on the walls and the rich costumes of the people, nothing could be imagined in the shape of a hall chair more magnificent and imposing. We could wish that such work was bestowed in our times upon hall chairs; but, then, where is the hall to be found noble enough in design and rich in colour to comport with these magnificent specimens of the old Italian grandeur and surpassing beauty of style? We have plenty of fine old Elizabethan halls and chairs to match, that have stood in their places from the day their owners built them; but these are of a different order, stiffer, elaborate to a fault, and of a lower motive in art. When the Elizabethan Renaissance fancy has had its run with our architects, we may hope to see the Italian Gothic coming in for the mansions of our great merchant princes, as they did

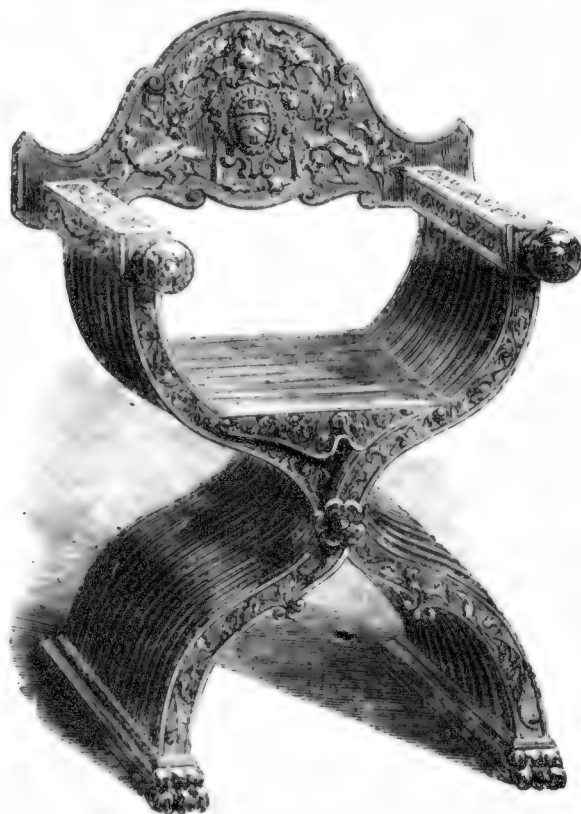


MEDIEVAL AND RENAISSANCE FURNITURE IN THE SOUTH
KENSINGTON MUSEUM.

for the Venetians in their palmy days of commerce. There is no style which can compare with it for producing the general harmony of architecture, furniture, and works of art in sculpture and painting, as well as the numerous accessories which belong to a noble mansion.



NO. 2

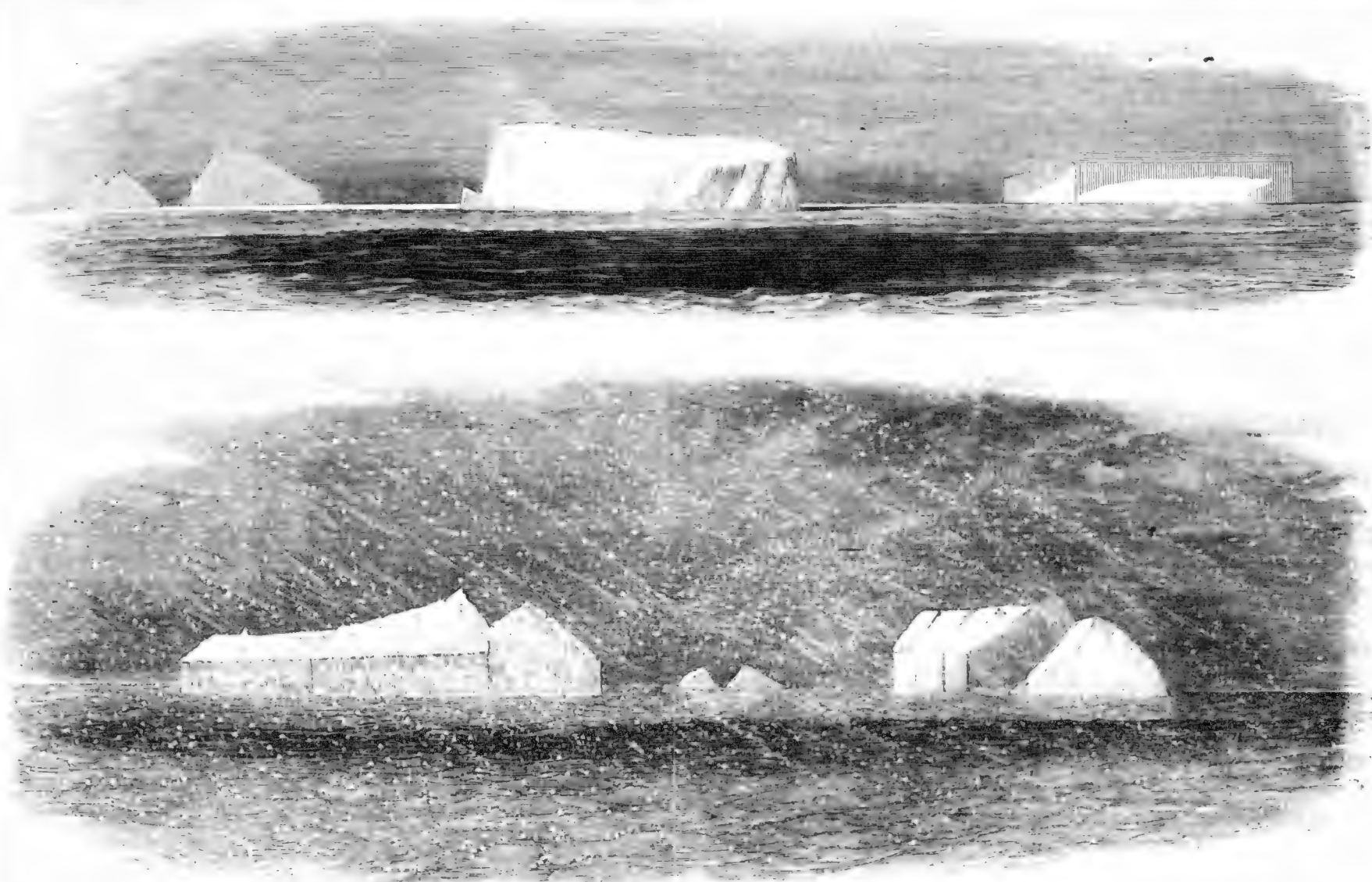


NO. 1.

VENETIAN CHAIRS FROM THE SOULAGES COLLECTION.



NO. 3.



ICEBERGS PASSED BY THE ANGLESEY ON HER VOYAGE FROM MELBOURNE TO LONDON.

ICEBERGS.

A curious phenomenon has of late years exhibited itself in connection with icebergs, and which has naturally excited much interest among students of physical geography. It used to be believed that icebergs but rarely in winter became detached from the vast fields which mass themselves around the poles, and yet vessels at sea have recently fallen in with such moving frozen monsters in unusual numbers. It would seem, too, that these floating mountains of ice now intrude themselves further into the temperate regions than was their wont, and are becoming a source of much danger and perplexity to mariners. This phenomenon is an interesting as well as an important one, and its study is well worthy the attention of the votaries of physical science.

We have been favoured with sketches of some out of many icebergs encountered by the ship Anglesey on her voyage home from Australia. The Anglesey, J. Mackerlie commander, belonging to

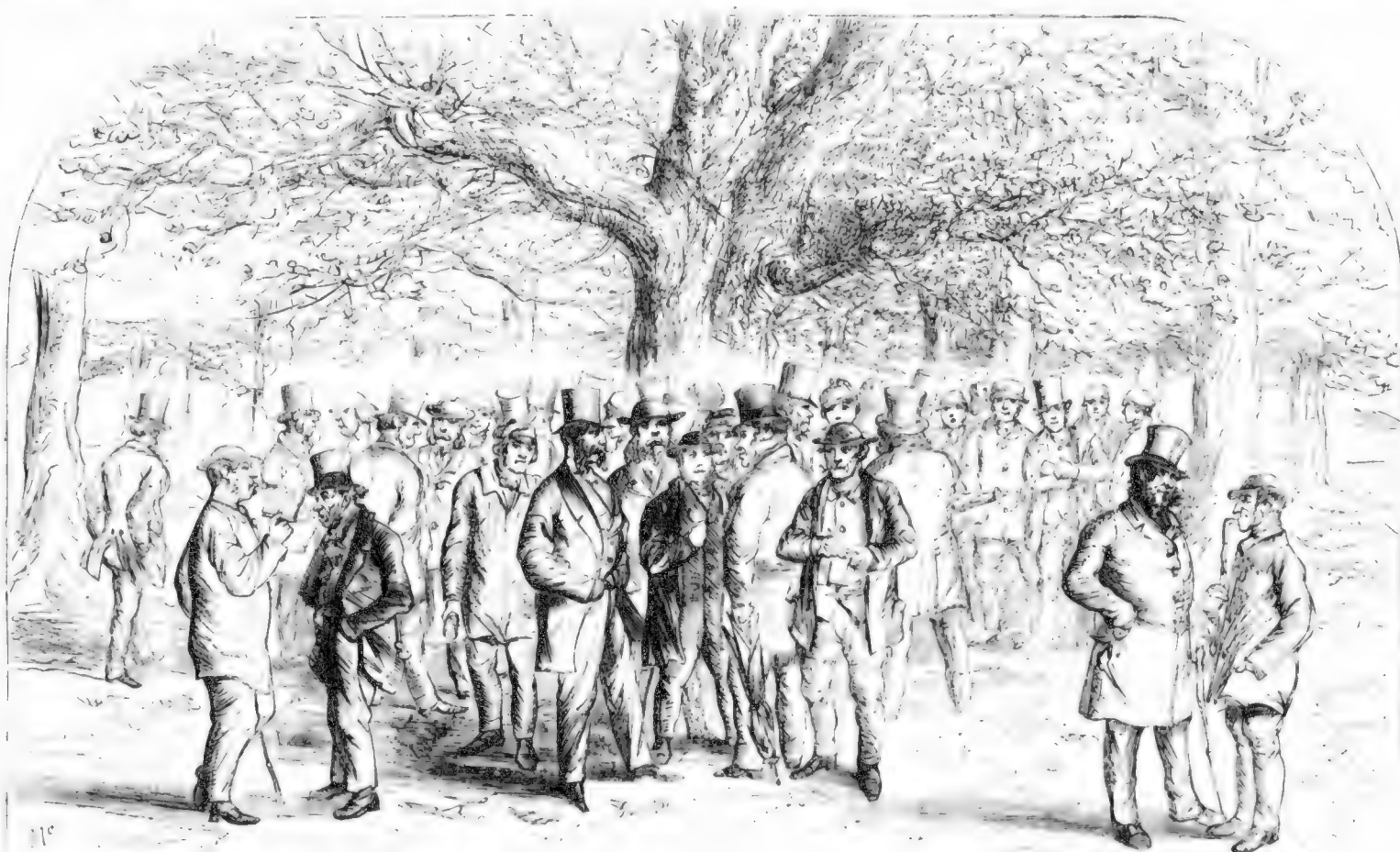
the Blackwall line of packets, left Port Phillip Heads on the 15th of August, and on the 25th sighted two icebergs, the thermometer at that time standing at 37 deg. For a fortnight afterwards not a day passed but icebergs of all sizes were visible, although the vessel was driving along before a strong westerly gale. On the 28th she passed no less than fifty-two, a hard gale blowing, and a heavy sea on, the ship having to be put under close-reefed topsail and reefed foresail; the latitude being 53° 58' S., longitude 151° W.; thermometer 43°. A portion of the icebergs then seen are depicted in our Engravings; one of them, that to the right of the smaller Engraving, being a long way off, perfectly square, and supposed to be fifteen miles round. While these icebergs were being encountered, the nights were very dark, with frequent heavy falls of snow, which rendered it impossible to see far ahead, and consequently made the navigation of the ship through the huge monsters which surrounded her on all sides, extremely difficult and dangerous. In these trying

circumstances, the sleepless and vigilant watchfulness of the commander and officers of the vessel were beyond all praise; and, in token of their appreciation of the skill and carefulness displayed, the cabin passengers, on arriving in the Channel, presented Captain Mackerlie with a testimonial and an address.

Our Illustrations are from sketches taken by a passenger, and show the icebergs as they appeared from the poop of the Anglesey.

THE BETTING-MEN IN HYDE PARK.

A most pleasing attribute of a public park is its universality. It is a neutral ground upon which all classes may meet and learn something concerning each other. There are few metropolitans who have never enjoyed the luxury of the lungs of London, surveyed the "lodge" in the vast wilderness, and revelled in the boundless contiguity of shade. But, although there are half-a-dozen public parks,



LONDON SKETCHES, NO. 13.—"RUSSELL & QUAPP" HYDE PARK.

LAW AND CRIME.

A VERY neat comedy was brought before the public at the Court of Common Pleas, Guildhall, on Monday last. The dramatic personae were Mr. Morris, an American proprietor of the New York Hotel, Leicester-square; Dr. Anthony, a medical gentleman from India in search of a wife; Mr. Cannon, a gentleman of no occupation, residing at the Leicester Hotel; and Mr. Woolerston, a medical gentleman. These are the talking personages; but, as the classic fashion, there are in the play others, named and frequently mentioned, but unseen. These are, "the best of young ladies," daughter of a clergyman, name unknown; Mrs. Cannon, a lady of refined tastes and extensive acquaintance; and Mr. Cannon, separated from Mrs. Cannon, and engaged to be addicted to pistol-practice. The period of action commences April Fools' Day, A.D. 1861, and the scene is laid at the Leicester Hotel. On the 1st of April, as presented in the comedy or cause, Dr. Anthony arrived in London. He was introduced to Mr. Woolerston, to whom he communicated his object of obtaining a wife. Woolerston asked him to go up and see Mrs. Cannon, "the very lady who would find him the best of young ladies to choose from." Dr. Anthony did see Mrs. Cannon, who promised at once to get him the "best of young ladies," and so far kept her word as to introduce him to a clergyman's daughter, by whom his suit was accepted and who is now his wife. So far all appears pleasant enough, but the matter is complicated by the arrangements of the Leicester Hotel. Mrs. Cannon, shortly after the doctor's introduction to her, went to reside at this establishment, where also was Mr. Woolerston, likewise Mr. Grove. Thither went the good doctor too. After a time the doctor got married. Mrs. Cannon left, as Mr. Woolerston says, because she could not pay the hotel bill; and Mr. Woolerston left because he could not pay it for her. Thus, like an unkindly Mme. Vaagner in De Balzac's "Père Goriot," the hotelkeeper lost a whole tribe of customers by one unlucky transaction. True, Mr. Grove remained; but Mr. Grove has remained for months at a charge of £240, of which he has paid the odd forty, and expects to pay the balance out of money in Chancery. Mr. Morris sued the doctor for the board and residence of himself and Mrs. Cannon, and hence the trial. The account cannot include several items for bottles of port &c.; but this apparently exorbitant charge was explained by Mr. Morris, who said defendant was not contented with articles at a reasonable price. Mr. Morris deposed to defendant having ordered goods for Mrs. Cannon. Mr. Woolerston testified that defendant would come to the hotel at ten o'clock in the morning and lunch, dine, tea, and sup there, and leave about eleven o'clock at night. On these occasions he was always ordering all day long, and never satisfied with things when he got them. He was remarkably fond of sherry. Grapes he would eat any amount of, peaches and nectarines, or anything that was nice. He said he would let the bill run up to £300. This witness said of Mrs. Cannon that "any man would pay her bill for her, if he knew her." On the other hand, the defendant, after dwelling the manner of his introduction to the best of young ladies, swore that he never promised to pay for Mrs. Cannon. He added:—

"I was ready to my marriage, Mrs. Cannon wanted me to be a memorandum to become liable for the amount she required. I refused to do so, and she then said, 'You must be married; if you do not, you will be a witness to my marriage.' He is a Yankee and a wicked fellow. He will let my husband something, and then he will come down here with a pair of pistols and shoot my brains out." I told her it was a falsehood, and I would not give the bill because I had no money, and she said she would be afraid to blow my brains out. The result was that, after five minutes' deliberation, the jury returned a verdict for the defendant. However much we may believe that certain persons wished to make something of the defendant, we can readily see the justice of the decision if the reported evidence be correct. It does not appear to be denied that defendant ordered certain goods, although this is proved by two witnesses. Surely he must be liable for these. Perhaps one may hear of a notion for a new trial. In the meantime we may mention that, as Mrs. Cannon was not examined in court, no part of the evidence should be in any way allowed to tell to her disadvantage.

The remarkably singular case of Mrs. Wilson, originally charged with an attempt to palm off a supposititious child upon her husband, and since with bigamy, has taken another curious turn. It is now alleged that her first husband, one Gotobed, was himself a bigamist in marrying her; consequently that her first marriage was null, and the second perfectly legal. The magistrate seems to lean towards the prisoner, and is reported to have said that—

"I supposed to him that this was a case in which, even if a conviction was obtained, not more than 15. fine would be imposed. He should say that the best course would be to take sureties, and let the case stand over till the next session, when the charge of bigamy against him and a similar charge against a woman. This was a case where a woman had been ruined."

It does not appear very likely that Captain Wilson, the lady's husband, will prosecute; in fact, it is estimated that these proceedings are the result of a hostile feeling on the part of his family only. Mrs. Wilson is liberated on bail to the 14th of December.

Mary Newell, the servant-girl charged with the extraordinary robbery at her master's house in Pimlico, whence she absconded in male attire, has been committed for trial. Her solicitor reserved the defence, but it is understood that mental aberration will be set up in palliation of her guilt.

MIDDLESEX SESSIONS.

As reported at a recent John Smart, aged forty-two, a female house, was brought up before Mr. Payne for bigamy. He had previously been sentenced to four years' imprisonment, and four years' hard labour. The judge said he had now to two years' hard labour. As the sentence was passed the prisoner took from his pocket a book and in the picking of oakum, and in the name of Mr. Hodgkinson, the clerk, and made an attempt to climb the edge of his Lordship's desk of about six inches in depth. It was ordered that an attempt should be made as to how a prisoner was brought

into court with such an article in his possession, and that a bill should be preferred before the grand jury against him for an assault. The bill having been presented was returned as a true one, and the prisoner will therefore be tried on that charge.

POLICE.

SERVANTS AND THEIR VISITORS.—A powerful-looking fellow named Thomas Puzey, aged 25; George Reeves, 20; and Ann Colley, a middle-aged woman, were charged at the Marylebone Police Court, the two male prisoners with assaulting a widow lady named Mrs. Sarah Green, residing at 5, Fulham-place, Paddington, and carrying away a quantity of plate, and the female with being concerned with them in the robbery. In April, 1859, the prisoner Puzey was apprehended in the name of Jones for a plate robbery to the extent of £3000 at Lord Foley's, for which he was sentenced to three years' penal servitude. Since then he has been brought to the court for lead-stealing, but acquitted. Reeves has already undergone four years' penal servitude for stealing plate.

Sergeant Potter, D. said—On the morning after the robbery and assault I went and examined the house, and found that the thieves must have gone direct from the street-door to the room where the robbery was committed. I went after Colley and found her. I told her I was a police-officer, and asked her if she was at 5, Fulham-place, on the night before the robbery. She at first said she could not remember; but, after some hesitation, said she was there. She said that the lady for whom she was churning in Eastbourne-terrace applied to her the previous week to get her a servant, and she went to Mrs. Green's to see if Lucy was there, when the cook asked her down stairs. She could not say how long she stopped. I asked her whether, during the time she was there, she did not go out for an errand. She at first stoutly denied going out; but, upon being pressed, she admitted going out for some gin. I then told her that I had been to the house of the lady in Eastbourne-terrace, and that she was full of servants, and never authorised her to get any. She (Colley) then said, "Oh, she will say anything." She then admitted that she went to 5, Fulham-place, the next night because she had heard of a situation in Berkshire, and went to tell the cook. She did not know whereabouts in Berkshire the situation was. She said she went out for some gin on this night about twenty minutes after she got there, and left for good about half an hour after.

Sophia Jackson, cook to Mrs. Green—I know the woman Colley as nurse to my mistress last winter. She was in the house on the night of the robbery. It was near nine when she came. She knocked at the rails, and I opened the door and asked her down. A few (another female servant) was down in the kitchen at the time. I closed the door after Colley came in, and am certain it was fast, as I always try it. A few went up and was absent some time, and then came down to order supper. Myself and Mrs. Colley had some gin that evening—half a quart—and we had some the previous evening. Colley proposed that we should have the gin. Askew had none of it. She went out for the gin after Askew had gone up to her mistress the first time. I did not leave the kitchen when she went out for the gin. She let herself out, and took the key to let herself in again, and when she got into the kitchen she said, "Mind, there is your key." Soon after this I heard what I thought was the tray thrown down, and said "Whatever is the matter?" She (Colley) said, "Oh, don't worry yourself." I listened as quick as I could into the passage, which, being narrow, we could not both pass together. The street door was wide open, and Colley said, "Mind, I am innocent; I know nothing of this."

After some further evidence, Mr. Yardley said: This is a most daring and almost unheard-of robbery and outrage, and one that is likely to make everybody feel insecure in their own homes. The evidence against the woman rests on more than mere suspicion. I should like to have some corroborative evidence as to the identity of the male prisoners, and with that view I shall only order the remand till Wednesday.

MR. BOHN OBJECTS TO SMOKING.—Mr. Richard Ellis, a gentleman residing at Twickenham, ap. charged before Mr. Yarnold to answer a second summons, charging him with smoking in a first-class carriage belonging to the South-Western Railway Company, and pleaded guilty.

Mr. Bohn, a bookseller, of Covent-garden, was the principal witness in the case. He stated that when the train reached Putney some gentlemen persisted in smoking, and he objected to it, upon which the defendant said if he had a cigar he would smoke in the defence of him. Another gentleman, whom he did not know, gave him one, and also a light. Witness snatched the lighted one, upon which the gentleman gave the defendant another, and threatened to punch witness's head if he did it again. Witness discontinued, and at Mortlake the defendant was caught by the guard smoking. The witness added that the defendant had since sent a letter expressing regret, and that would have satisfied him (the witness), but the company felt it their duty to go on on account of the smoking practice.

Mr. Arnold said it was a great annoyance to passengers who did not like smoking; but, as the defendant seemed to regret what had happened, he should not impose the full penalty. He fined him 10s. and costs.

The money was immediately paid.

MONEY OPERATIONS OF THE WEEK.

ALTHOUGH the announcement on the part of the Finance Minister that the actual deficiency in the revenue of France, compared with the expenditure, amounts to no less than £40,000,000, and although a new loan of £20,000,000 seems inevitable, most houses securities have ruled tolerably firm this week, and prices have advanced steadily. Consols for Money have realised 94 1/4; 94 1/2 to 94 3/4; Exchequer Bills, March, 95 to 105; Ditto, June, 125 to 135; Indian Bonds, 80, have changed hands to a fair extent; at full quotations, India Bonds, 100 to 110; Ditto, 100 to 110; Ditto, 100 to 110; and Rupee Paper, 99 and 100; India Bonds, have sold at from 115 to 125, in gold.

The last return of the Bank of France shows a decline in the stock of bullion of £750,000, but its general features are not considered unsatisfactory. There has been a moderate demand for money for commercial purposes, and the rates of discount have continued to rule low. In the open market the best bills are readily done as low as 2 1/2 per cent, but the supply of them is still limited.

On the Continent money has become somewhat higher in price. At Hamburg the quotation for four and a half per cent at Brussels and Antwerp is 4, and at Amsterdam and Frankfurt 3 per cent. At Paris, however, accommodation may be had at from 3 1/2 to 5 per cent. The exchange here has become less favourable to the country. At New York bankers' bills have been taken for remittance at 17 1/2 to 17 3/4, being against this country. The last packet, however, took out only £310 in gold.

Foreign Bonds have been in good request, and in some instances an advance has taken place in the quotations. Prussian Four-and-a-half per cent has realised 92 1/2; Spanish Four-and-a-half per cent, 92 1/2; Ditto, Deferred, 92 1/2; Chilean Four-and-a-half per cent, 92 1/2; Ecuador New Consolidated, 92 1/2; Mexican Three per cent, 25; Peruvian Four-and-a-half per cent Unbarren Bond, 93 1/2; Peruvian Three per cent, 8 1/2; Portuguese Three per cent, 45 1/2; Russian Four-and-a-half per cent, 91; Sardinian Five per cent, 84; Spanish Three per cent, 92 1/2; Ditto, Deferred, 92 1/2; Ditto, Crutched, 92 1/2; Turkey Old Six per cent, 31; Ditto, 1854, 72; Ditto, 1855, 73; Venezuela Three per cent, 54 1/2; Dutch Four per cent, 100; and Italian Five per cent, 65 1/2.

The dealings in Joint-stock Bank Shares have been tolerably numerous. Australian have sold at 11 1/2; Bank of London, 6 1/2; Chartered of India, Australia, and China, 5 1/2; London and County, 10 1/2; London and Scotch, 10 1/2; Oriental, 5 1/2; Ottoman, 17 1/2; Union of Australia, 5 1/2; and Union of London, 8.

Colonial Government Securities have ruled firm. Canada Five per cent have marked 10 1/2; New South Wales Five per cent, 10 1/2 and upwards, 10 1/2; Nova Scotia Six per cent, 10 1/2; and Victoria Six per cent, 10 1/2.

A fair average business has been passing in Miscellaneous Securities. Anglo-Mexican Mint share have been done at 14 1/2; Australian Agricultural, 7 1/2; Berlin Waterworks, 5 1/2; City of London, 10 1/2; Electric Telegraph, 10 1/2; Oriental, 11 1/2; Oriental India Steam, 10 1/2; Peninsula and Oriental, 10 1/2; Royal Mail Steam, 10 1/2; and Victoria, 10 1/2.

The market for Railway Shares has been far from active, and in some instances the quotations have had a drooping tendency.

METROPOLITAN MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE.—The present week's arrival of home-grown wheat has been very moderate, and the demand for both red and white qualities has been steady. Full prices. Fine foreign wheats have continued to be in great demand, but low and damp parcels have met a dull inquiry. Malting barley has sold at various rates, and the inquiry for grinding and distilling sorts has somewhat improved. We have no change to notice in the value of malt. The best oats have sold at quite last week's quotations; but foreign oats have given way to a few quarters. Both beans and peas have met a firm inquiry, and a good business has been passing in flour, at full prices.

ENGLISH CEREALS.—Wheat, 60s. 6d. and Kent, red, new, 57s. to 65s.; ditto, white, new, 55s. to 60s.; grinding barley, 25s. to 30s.; distilling ditto, 25s. to 30s.; adding new, 25s. to 32s.; rye, 3s. to 4s.; malt, 3s. to 4s.; peas, 18s. to 25s.; potato, 2s. to 3s.; clover, 1s. to 2s.; green peas, 3s. to 4s.; white peas, 3s. to 4s.; per quarter. Town roads, 4s. to 5s.; country, 3s. to 4s.; town household, 4s. to 4s. 7s. per 250lb.

CATTLE.—Each kind of prime stock has commanded a steady inquiry. All quotations. Otherwise, the demand has been a sluggish state. Beef, from 2s. 6d. to 2s. 10d.; mutton, 1s. 6d. to 1s. 8d.; veal, 1s. 2d. to 1s. 4d.; pork, 5s. 6d. to 6s. 1d.; 4d. per 8lb., to sink the other.

NEWCASTLE AND LIVERPOOL.—The supplies of meat are good, and a steady business is doing, as follows:—Beef, from 2s. 6d. to 2s. 10d.; mutton, 1s. 6d. to 1s. 8d.; veal, 1s. 2d. to 1s. 4d.; pork, 5s. 6d. to 6s. 1d.; 4d. per 8lb., to sink the other.

TEA.—There is a fair average business doing in most kinds, at full quotations.

SUGAR.—Good and fine raw qualities have mostly found buyers, at previous rates; but inferior kinds have met a dull inquiry. Refined grades move off slowly, at 40s. per cwt. for common brown lump.

COFFEE.—There is no activity in the market; nevertheless, prices are supported.

ICE.—Most descriptions command full quotations; but the demand is by no means active.

QUALITIES OF BUTTER.—The best of the article is in request, at full quotations; but state is in heavy. The best of the article is in request, at full quotations; but state is in heavy.

BAKING POWDER.—The inquiry for this article is in request, at full quotations; but state is in heavy. The best of the article is in request, at full quotations; but state is in heavy.

SPICES.—Rice has moved off steadily, at full quotations. Brandy and brandy spirits support late rates, but the inquiry for them is by no means active.

Wool.—The public sales are progressing heavily, at a decline in the quotations of from 1d. to 2d. per pound.

GRASSES.—Prices are well supported, but the demand is less active.

HEMP AND FLAX.—Hemp is in request, at full quotations; but flax is in heavy. The inquiry for flax is in request, at full quotations; but flax is in heavy.

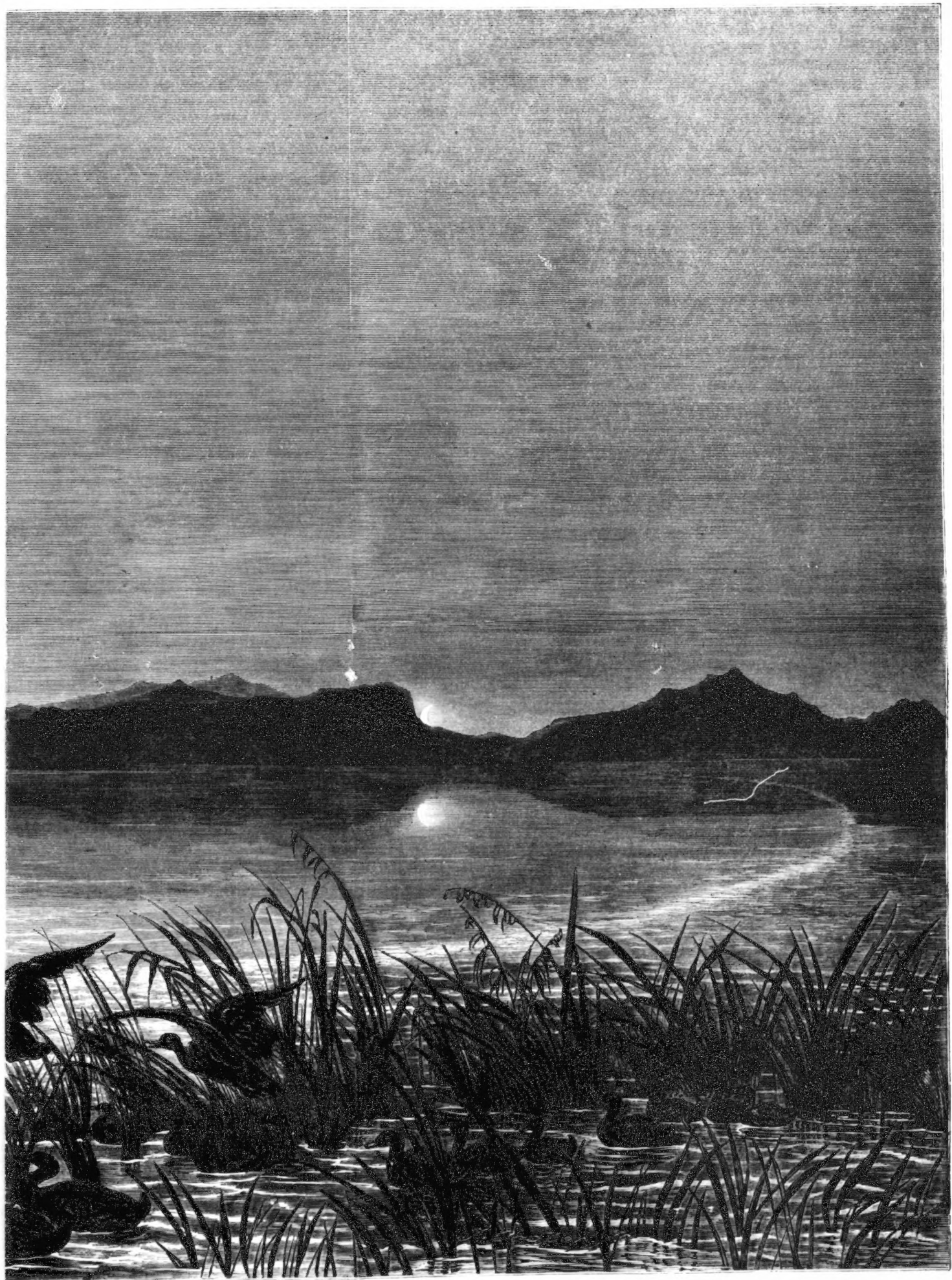
HOPS.—Good and fine hops are in request, at full quotations. In other kinds, however, very little is doing. Mid and East Kent, 18s. to 20s.; West of Kent, 17s. to 18s.; and Sussex, 16s. to 18s. per cwt.

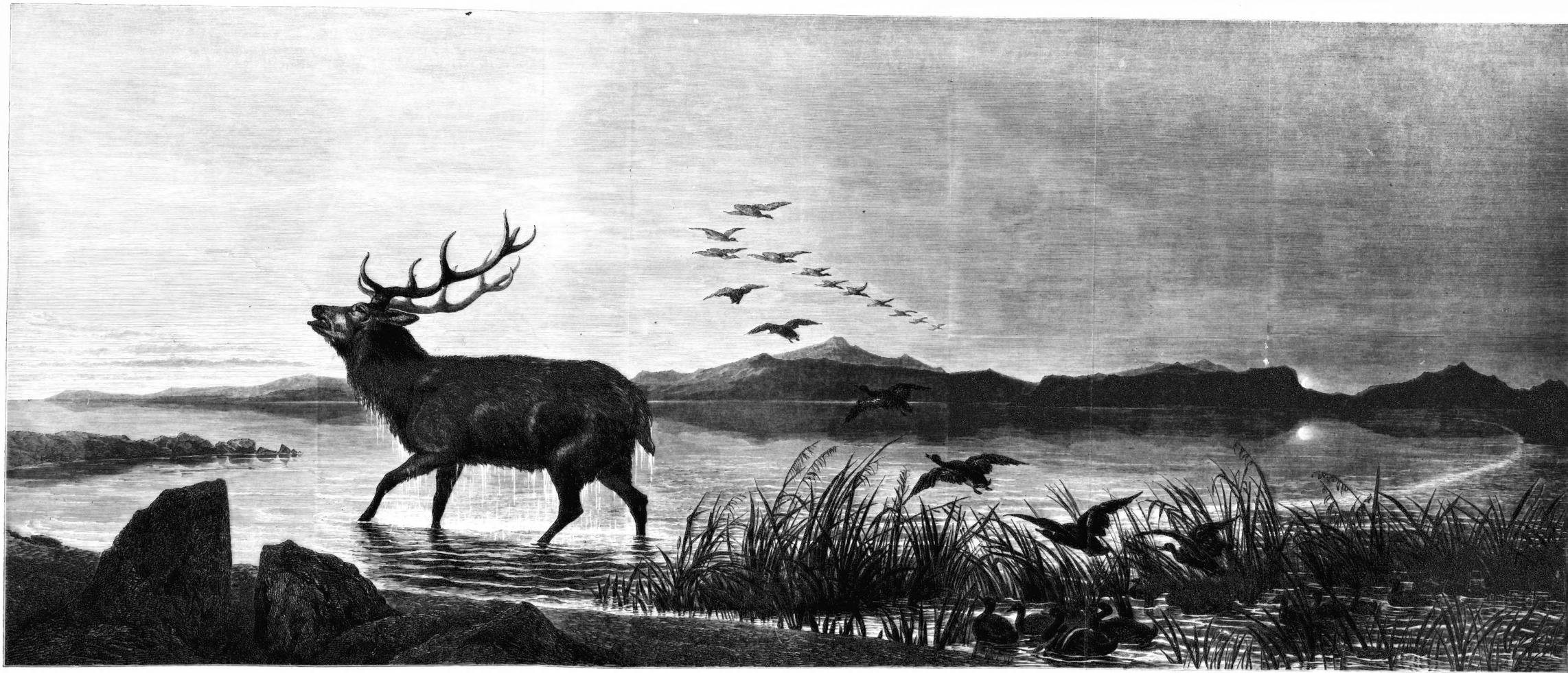
Wool.—Fair average spinners are on sale, and the demand is steady, at 10s. to 12s. per pound.

Oil.—Lined oil is in request, at 6s. to 6s. 6d. Foreign refined rapeseed oil, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; brown, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.; olive, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 8d.; and fine palm, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 6d. American turpentine is held at 7s. per cwt.

THE DEMAND.—The demand is much restricted. R.C.C. on the spot, is selling at 2s. 6d. for new and old. The stock is 57,000 casks, against 67,500 last year. Bought last 12 d. per 8lb. 1s. 6d.

COALS.—Best house coals, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; second, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and third, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and fourth, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and fifth, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and sixth, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and seventh, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and eighth, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and ninth, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and tenth, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and eleventh, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and twelfth, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and thirteenth, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and fourteenth, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and fifteenth, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and sixteenth, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and seventeenth, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and eighteenth, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and nineteenth, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and twentieth, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and twenty-first, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and twenty-second, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and twenty-third, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and twenty-fourth, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and twenty-fifth, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and twenty-sixth, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and twenty-seventh, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and twenty-eighth, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and twenty-ninth, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and thirtieth, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; 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and one hundred and thirteenth, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and one hundred and fourteenth, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and one hundred and fifteenth, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and one hundred and sixteenth, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and one hundred and seventeenth, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and one hundred and eighteenth, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and one hundred and nineteenth, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and one hundred and twentieth, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and one hundred and twenty-first, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and one hundred and twenty-second, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and one hundred and twenty-third, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and one hundred and twenty-fourth, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and one hundred and twenty-fifth, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and one hundred and twenty-sixth, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and one hundred and twenty-seventh, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and one hundred and twenty-eighth, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and one hundred and twenty-ninth, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and one hundred and thirtieth, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and one hundred and thirty-first, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and one hundred and thirty-second, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and one hundred and thirty-third, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and one hundred and thirty-fourth, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and one hundred and thirty-fifth, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and one hundred and thirty-sixth, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and one hundred and thirty-seventh, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and one hundred and thirty-eighth, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and one hundred and thirty-ninth, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and one hundred and fortieth, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and one hundred and forty-first, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and one hundred and forty-second, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and one hundred and forty-third, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and one hundred and forty-fourth, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and one hundred and forty-fifth, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and one hundred and forty-sixth, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and one hundred and forty-seventh, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and one hundred and forty-eighth, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and one hundred and forty-ninth, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and one hundred and fiftieth, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and one hundred and fifty-first, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and one hundred and fifty-second, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; 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and one hundred and one hundred and eleventh, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and one hundred and one hundred and twelfth, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and one hundred and one hundred and thirteenth, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and one hundred and one hundred and fourteenth, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and one hundred and one hundred and fifteenth, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and one hundred and one hundred and sixteenth, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and one hundred and one hundred and seventeenth, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and one hundred and one hundred and eighteenth, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and one hundred and one hundred and nineteenth, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and one hundred and one hundred and twentieth, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and one hundred and one hundred and twenty-first, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and one hundred and one hundred and twenty-second, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and one hundred and one hundred and twenty-third, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and one hundred and one hundred and twenty-fourth, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and one hundred and one hundred and twenty-fifth, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and one hundred and one hundred and twenty-sixth, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and one hundred and one hundred and twenty-seventh, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and one hundred and one hundred and twenty-eighth, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and one hundred and one hundred and twenty-ninth, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and one hundred and one hundred and thirtieth, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and one hundred and one hundred and thirty-first, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and one hundred and one hundred and thirty-second, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and one hundred and one hundred and thirty-third, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and one hundred and one hundred and thirty-fourth, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and one hundred and one hundred and thirty-fifth, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and one hundred and one hundred and thirty-sixth, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and one hundred and one hundred and thirty-seventh, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and one hundred and one hundred and thirty-eighth, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and one hundred and one hundred and thirty-ninth, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and one hundred and one hundred and fortieth, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and one hundred and one hundred and forty-first, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and one hundred and one hundred and forty-second, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and one hundred and one hundred and forty-third, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and one hundred and one hundred and forty-fourth, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and one hundred and one hundred and forty-fifth, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and one hundred and one hundred and forty-sixth, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and one hundred and one hundred and forty-seventh, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and one hundred and one hundred and forty-eighth, 12s. 6d. to 13s.; and one hundred and one hundred and forty-ninth,





THE SANCTUARY.

FROM THE PICTURE BY SIR EDWIN LANDSEER, R.A. (BY PERMISSION OF MR. T. BOYS).